FEBRUARY, 1910 FIVE CENTS

WILSHIRE'S

"LET THE NATION OWN THE TRUSTS"

GETTING "THE MAN HIGHER UP"

"Your board has no reason to believe and does not believe that any executive officer or director of this company had any knowledge of or participation in this fraudulent underweighing."—*From Annual Report of the Directors of the Sugar Trust.*

One Man with Nerve Got a Gold Watch for $2.00

That headline means just what it says. One solitary individual who entered what he thought was to be a contest for a gold watch, and having no competitors, got away with it for just eight subs or $2.00 which he collected from other people.

There was no contest, nor can he be considered a contestant, seeing that he had none to contest with. So to-day Comrade Herman Rahm, of Staunton, Ill., is the possessor of a handsome watch bearing a Socialist design and his name engraved on the cover, and a gold-plated watch fob to go with it, just for collecting and handing in eight subscriptions. If that isn't easy money, we would like to know what is easier.

Looks as if Socialists—who loudly proclaim that they are fighting the class struggle—shy at the word "contest." We don't like to think that they have lost their nerve, but it certainly looks like it.

To our offer of a gold watch in last month's issue there was not one answer in the first week. One man entered the second week and won the prize the week following.

And, strangely enough, there were over a dozen of our hustlers, who had not entered the contest, who sent in from two to three times as many subs as Comrade Rahm, the winner of the watch, in the same week.

This isn't pleasant news for these hustlers, of course, but under the circumstances the prize could only go to the man who had grit enough to enter the contest and notify us of the fact.

However, while we might, with such a showing, be justified in calling off the contest, it still remains open. And after giving our hustlers the above details, possibly they may consider the matter worthy of some effort.

TERMS OF THE CONTEST.

Contest for each week begins at 9:00 a. m., Monday, and closes at 1 p. m., Saturday.

The Comrade winning one of these watches will have a memorial of his work for Socialism that he will always prize, not only on account of its intrinsic value, but because of the way in which he has earned it.

But this is not all. To everyone entering this contest and sending in a list of eight

subs or more in one week, we will present a beautiful gold-plated watch fob, engraved with similar design. Only one of these fobs will be given to a contestant, that is, you must send in at least eight subs to get the watch fob, but if you send in sixteen, you will not be given two.

All subs will be counted for the week in which they are received. The one sending in the greatest number of subs in any week wins the watch, but no one who has won a watch can compete for another while the contest lasts. We will give at least two weeks' notice in the Magazine when it is decided to discontinue the contest.

In case of a tie the value of the prize will be divided between those tying.

On the foot of the page we are printing a dozen or so opinions from comrades regarding the Magazine in its new form. These have been selected from several hundred, mostly similar.

Read these opinions over and you will find a general agreement that the propaganda value of the Magazine has been greatly increased. This being the case, let me again call your attention to the bundle orders and prices for same. Nowhere can you procure as effective propaganda literature at the price that WILSHIRE'S makes you. After reading the list of prices below send in your order for a bundle.

PRICES OF BUNDLE SUBSCRIPTIONS TO ONE ADDRESS.

4	copies	six months	$0.50
4	"	one year	1.00
8	"	six months	1.00
8	"	one year	2.00
20	"	three months	1.25
20	"	six months	2.50
20	"	one year	5.00
100	"	one month	1.75
100	"	three months	5.00
100	"	six months	10.00
100	"	nine months	15.00
100	"	one year	20.00
500	"	one month	7.50
500	"	three months	20.00
1000	"	one month	15.00

What Our Readers Say:

WILMOT I. GOODSPEED, Chicago, Ill.

The January WILSHIRE'S in its new form has reached me; and I have read it from cover to cover and found it good.

JOHN C. DARROW, Ashtabula, Ohio.

Just received the new WILSHIRE'S and am pleased to commend you on its appearance without the common advertising matter. As to its size I think its wings have been clipped a little close. To my mind, somewhere about ten by thirteen one-fourth inches would be a fitting size, but I may change my view later on becoming accustomed to its present size. But for all that, I am one of the—I hope very many—admirers of Wilshire's in any form.

THOMAS BRABAZON, Hartford, Conn.

I received WILSHIRE'S in its new form, and it is a great improvement. I think that the plays you publish in the Magazine should be eliminated. Straight reading is more readily understood. Mr. Sinclair, to my mind, is about the most graceful writer of the English language, and I look to see something more than plays from his pen.

WM. A. GOODWIN, Lindsay, Ontario, Canada.

Your new edition of the cheapest and the best monthly magazine that runs the gantlet of our obnoxious postal impositions on Socialist literature to hand. I am very much pleased with its improved appearance and the large amount of sound reading matter it contains. The fine articles of Odon Por and Ben Hanford are alone worth the price of a year's subscription.

The tender and touching description of unprotected women in the whirlpool of Chicago corruption, as illustrated in the experience of Dolly Jones, is most heart-rending. "Woman and Political Action," by Mrs. Harriet D'Orsay, is right up to date in pointing the true way to political liberty.

Socialist Lessons for Children is a most excellent department, and the editor deserves appreciation for the loving way of imparting instruction.

The page devoted to Economics, Science and Invention is a valuable record of social growth and the inevitable tendency toward social revolution.

FRED ANDERSON, South Carver, Mass.

Like WILSHIRE'S very much better since the change. Now keep it so. Don't enlarge it, as it is just the thing now. Sinclair's "John D." is all right.

CHAS. E. MURRAY, Manitou, Okla.

WILSHIRE'S in its new dress is very much appreciated by me. It has cut down somewhat in size, but not in good reading matter. Hope that its readers will number by the million in the near future.

H. VON HAYDENSCHATT, Chicago, Ill.

The new appearance of WILSHIRE'S is more satisfactory. The size of the magazine is about right and makes it more convenient to read, also to carry in the pocket. I wish you every success.

DANIEL E. RICHARDS, Scranton, Pa.

A very Happy New Year to you. The WILSHIRE'S MAGAZINE in its new form is a vast improvement, making it more handy for perusal and much more convenient for preservation. Much success to it.

MARK W. CASLER, Delta, Ohio.

I have received the January number of "WILSHIRE'S," and wish to express my appreciation of same. In my opinion the Magazine is much better without the ads, and I heartily endorse your action in cutting out all commercial advertising.

J. A. C. MENG, Eureka Springs, Ark.

Accept my hearty congratulations on the expurgated WILSHIRE'S. It is a revelation.

Will I get subs for the new and beautiful WILSHIRE'S? Yes, Yes! Nothing but poverty or impenetrable parsimony could keep any one from paying a quarter for such a magnificent paper.

Write a Postal To-day

Taft in his recent message said he favored the increase of postage on magazines and periodicals 400 per cent.

The daily newspapers, however, will remain under the old rate.

Why this discrimination? Well, it has been said that the weeklies and monthlies are the only *independent* papers left. An increase of 400 per cent. in postage for them means either a corresponding increase in price or bankruptcy.

Write your postal to Congressman John W. Weeks, chairman, House Committee on Post office and Post Roads, Washington, D. C., and tell him what you think about it. Do it now.

GAYLORD WILSHIRE, Editor,
"Wilshire's Magazine," 200 William St., N. Y.

Dear Comrade:—

Please enter me on the Socialist Gold Watch Contest. I am enclosing you $..... for ..... subscriptions.

Name .....

Street Address .....

Town ..... State .....

"LET·THE·NATION·OWN·THE TRUSTS"

WILSHIRE'S

GAYLORD WILSHIRE
-Editor-

Vol. XIV No. 2 NEW YORK, FEBRUARY, 1910 Price, 5 Cents per Copy

The Morganization of the World

WHILE the American public has been surfeited with the recitals of the muckrakers, and stories of fraud, chicanery, corruption, outrage and oppression have followed each other in such bewildering succession that the ordinary citizen can hardly keep abreast of the headlines describing them, much less become acquainted with the multitude of details, there is one process, started years ago, which has never halted, and which steadily and relentlessly keeps its course, utterly regardless of, and unaffected by, the narratives of fraud and corruption that ostensibly form the important news of the day. We have referred to it many times in the past under the title of "The Significance of the Trust."

It has been a favorite and oft repeated prediction in these columns that while the general process of concentration was inevitable in the present order of things, and in no sense dependent on the action of certain groups and individuals, the entire control of this nation's sources of life was fast passing into the hands of the financial combination generally designated as the Rockefeller-Morgan interests, Mr. Morgan being, in the public eye at least, the active factor in the concentrating process.

However this may be—and it is not a matter of great importance whether Mr. Morgan is the shadow and Mr. Rockefeller the substance, or vice versa—it is an indisputable fact that this financial group has recently been drawing the economic power of the nation into its control, with a rapidity and on a scale never before approached.

Years ago lists and tables of the financial and industrial holdings of this group were published with the purpose of warning the American public of its vast economic power. A list of its holdings to-day, however, would make all former lists look pitiable and trifling in comparison. The one billion dollars of wealth controlled by it, which used to be spoken of as if the amount were so stupendous that it could hardly be grasped by the human mind, has grown to the still more incomprehensible figure of ten billions.

The process of wiping the small capitalist off the financial slate through the superiority of the Trust form of organization, has of course never halted, but in addition to this, we have seemingly arrived at the point where the large capitalist—the erstwhile master of from ten to fifty or one hundred million dollars—is being absorbed or eliminated with apparently as much ease as his smaller brethren. This is the day when the large capitalist is called upon to stand and deliver. The strong man, armed, has kept his house until now, but a stronger than he has come and evicted him.

Hardly had the late Mr. Harriman been buried when the fact was made public that the control of his vast railroad properties had passed into the hands of the Morgan interests, though it is possible and perhaps probable that these interests were always the eal controlling power, with Harriman as their agent.

The results of the panic notably enriched this financial group. Coal and iron companies, railroads and industrial plants by the dozen were irresistibly drawn in their direction.

Little more than three years ago, Mr. Morse had consolidated a coastwise steamship trust, an ice trust, and established a chain of banks. Morse has disappeared from the financial world—disappeared into a Federal jail, where he is now known merely as "No. 2814"—and his holdings have gravitated in the same general direction. Pending the confirmation of his sentence he was permitted to leave the prison for the purpose of securing seven or eight millions of collectable assets, which he duly turned over to the creditors and was then thrust into jail again.

Heinze, the erstwhile copper king, has been eliminated. His holdings, accredited at about the same as that of Morse—sixty millions—have disappeared, and in all probability have taken the same course. Possibly that auxiliary of the Rockefeller-Morgan group known as "Amalgamated," the recital of whose "crimes" enriched our vocabulary through the medium of Mr. Thomas Lawson several years ago, and which has recently evolved into the billion dollar copper trust, could if it would, a tale relate of where the Heinze holdings have gone.

Mr. John R. Walsh, banker, railroad promoter, mine-owner and general all-round financial crook, has gone the same route as Morse. A search for the heirs of his financial power would disclose the trail running in the same general direction.

In a little more than a week after the municipal elections in New York City, came the news that the financial control of the enormous assets of the Equitable Life Assurance Company had passed from Thomas F. Ryan to J. Pierpont Morgan.

And this is but the beginning of the passing of Ryan as an active financial power in the economic life of the country. Signs are not wanting that his grip on the existing traction properties of New York City is being loosened, and the ever ready hand of the Morgan-Rockefeller group is waiting to act as receiver. To-day's financial news (Jan. 3) announces that "Mr. Morgan is having the books of the Interborough Rapid Transit Company examined as a precedent to his finding $100,000,000 to finance proposed extensions and improvements." What this portends is not difficult to perceive. Just as Mr. Ryan compelled August Belmont to stand and deliver several years ago, so now is Ryan himself confronted with his future devourer, the insatiable Morgan. In less

than five years' time it is a safe prediction to make that the entire traction properties of New York City, all existing and all projected lines, will be completely in the control of the same combination. The defeat of Tammany has rendered it certain that so far as future franchises for city transportation are concerned, Mr. Ryan will not be considered. And that situation, desired by the big interests, was in all probability the real issue of our recent "anti - Tammany" campaign.

There is, however, another and much larger victim in prospect, who in the course of a very few years will yield possession also to the same combination. The financial news of this date (Jan. 3) also recounts the fact that Mr. Morgan has secured control of the Chicago Great Western Railroad, a "Vanderbilt road" so-called, and has authorized a bond issue of $75,000,000 immediately after getting control. Unless all signs fail, this presages as a next step the invasion of that "Empire" over which Mr. James J. Hill now reigns as absolute monarch.

Outside of this and in other directions, this combination is extending everywhere its control. Following the acquirement of the Equitable with its $472,000,000 assets, came the passing of the Guaranty Trust Company of New York, a ninety million dollar concern, into the same hands. Two more trust companies, the Mercantile with $68,000,000 and the Equitable Trust Co. with $63,000,000 going the same way. And even as we write this comes the news of the absorption of the Morton Trust Co.—formerly controlled by Ryan—and the Fifth Avenue Trust Co. into the same insatiable maelstrom.

The acquirement of these properties, together with the existing banks already in control of Mr. Morgan and his associates, gives them control and influence over financial institutions—banks, trust companies and assurance companies—with assets amounting to $2,292,860,382, a sum amounting to more than $800,000,000 in excess of all the coin and bullion which could be furnished by the combined central banks of England, France, Germany, Austria and Belgium.

The control of these stupendous resources gives the combination a power and influence in other properties, mostly railroads, whose combined assets amount to $7,653,961,606, these concerns, some of which are completely controlled by the Rockefeller-Morgan interests, all obtaining their funds through the banking institutions of this great combination.

We do not present these figures in the hope of astonishing or alarming our readers. Astonishment and alarm cannot and will not undo what has been accomplished, nor prevent what is yet to be accomplished. We would not if we could, and could not if we would, throw the smallest obstacle in the path of this development, or leave the impression even that there is the slightest chance of checking its progress. On the contrary, while we are well satisfied with the progress made, we would, were it possible, turn over at once the entire control of the property of the country to this group. They seem to want it, and the American people seemingly do not. At present they will have nothing to do with Socialism except through Rockefeller-Morgan as a medium, and this being the case we are perforce content.

We can even acquiesce in the proposal made by the January *Review of Reviews* after giving in detail the account of the Morganization of America. The financial department of that publication says:

> It is not a theory; it is a present condition, the tendency toward centralization of banking power. The only question is: Should there not be a centralized institution more powerful than any other, on the board of which representation shall be given to the people of the United States? The year or more before legislation to this effect can be proposed, may well be spent by good citizens in self-education.

That is suitable advice. The "year or more before legislation can be pro-

MARX'S FORECAST

That which is now to be expropriated is no longer the laborer working for himself, but the capitalist exploiting many laborers. This expropriation is accomplished by the action of the imminent laws of capitalistic production itself, by the centralization of capital. One capitalist always kills many. Hand in hand with this centralization, or this expropriation of many capitalists by few, develop, on an ever extending scale, the co-operative form of the labor process, the conscious technical application of science, the methodical cultivation of the soil, the transformation of the instruments of labor into instruments of labor only usable in common, the economizing of all means of production by their use as the means of production of combined, socialized labor, the entanglement of all peoples in the net of the world market, and this, the international character of the capitalistic régime. Along with the constantly diminishing number of the magnates of capital who usurp and monopolize all advantages of this process of transformation, grows the mass of misery, oppression, slavery, degradation, exploitation; but with this too grows the revolt of the working class, a class always increasing in numbers, and disciplined, united, organized by the very mechanism of the process of capitalist production itself. The monopoly of capital becomes a fetter upon the mode of production, which has sprung up and flourished along with, and under it. Centralization of the means of production and socialization of labor at last reach a point where they become incompatible with their capitalist integument. This integument is burst asunder. The knell of capitalist private property sounds. The expropriators are expropriated.—Karl Marx, "Capital."

posed" will afford sufficient time for Mr. Morgan to gather in, or perfect plans for gathering in, the remnants that yet remain outside the possession and control of himself and his associates. Much may be done in this direction while the "good citizens" are educating themselves in the pleasing delusion that there is, or may be evolved somewhere or out of something, "an institution more powerful" than the Rockefeller-Morgan group, which will call a halt on its domination.

While Mr. Morgan can find jobs for the majority of us, and can manage to secure markets for what we produce while permitted to work on his properties, there will be no real objection to his financial rule. When he fails to be able to do this, as he will and must eventually, there will be nothing more for him to do than surrender in turn to the American people, after forcing a like situation on his financial rivals. And then, and not until then, will the American people discover that they cannot run America on the Morgan principle either, and their only alternative will be the establishment of an Industrial Democracy based on the collective ownership of the nation's sources and means of life. Mr. Morgan's mission is to bring individual ownership—capitalistic ownership of property—to the point where it becomes impossible. He is the last term in its series.

So in the meantime, WILSHIRE'S will do its part in pointing out the necessity of Socialism, confident that Mr. Morgan will not neglect his, in making that practical demonstration, which, much more than theory, always impels a community to action.

Britain's Jobless Men

It is very difficult, perhaps almost impossible, to get any approximate idea of the amount of unemployment in the United States. During the recent depression the estimates differed widely, running usually between two and seven millions. Whatever the number may have been, however, it is reasonable to suppose that it has decreased somewhat during the slow revival of business.

In Great Britain, on the other hand, where much more accurate information on this subject is available, it seems that unemployment is still on the increase. A recent consular report from London states the total number of applications for relief by those out of employment in England and Wales was 196,757 for the year 1908-9, while the applications for the previous year—1907-8—were about ninety thousand. "The number of men," says the report, "who applied for relief in 1908-9 constituted 4 1-10 per cent. of the working male population of England and Wales, while it represented but 2 1-10 per cent. in 1907-8, and 1 9-10 per cent in 1906-7. Miscellaneous or casual laborers furnished 47 4-10 per cent. of the applicants, and 16 9-10 per cent. were furnished by the building trades. The number of applicants from the engineering, shipbuilding and metal trades was 50 per cent. higher in 1908-9 than in the preceding year."

These figures, the consul states, are those of the Royal Commission on the Poor Law and Relief of Distress.

Two suggestions for the solution of the unemployed problem were submitted by the Commission that may be worthy of notice. One was to the effect that State funds for the relief of unemployment should take the form of supplementing trade union funds. The suggestion states farther that "it is very doubtful whether it would be wise for the trade unions to accept State aid if it involved loss of independence and an interference with their efforts to improve wages. There is little doubt, however, that grants of this kind would enormously increase their membership."

The other suggestion is somewhat different. It says: "In order to prevent the spread of the unemployed as a class, it is probable that drastic measures ought to be taken, such as those recommended to check vagrancy. For the idle and the worthless who now form the noisy section of the unemployed, it might be necessary to establish semi-penal colonies."

THE UNEMPLOYED

By HUGH J. HUGHES

I am the shifting sand beneath the walls
Ye build and call the State. I am the Fear
That haunts you in your boasting and your dreams
Your dead youth's lost occasions! Yea, I am
The corse beneath the fabric of your Dream!

I am the shifting sand beneath the State.
Your laws, your customs, creeds, I undermine.
I laugh at your conventions, meant to bind.
Your Creeds! To me they purvey only lies.
So as ye build, I bury that ye build;
The walls ye rear upon me do decay.

I am the dream of Evil ye have dreamed;
The uncouth Hun, the Vandal, and the Goth;
The savage come again to leer, and laugh
Into forgetfulness the domes ye build.
Your learning, culture, visions—these shall fade,
And I shall pour your wisdom into pools
To sink, and fail, and so be lost to man.
I am the youngest anarch of the world:
I neither love nor hate, I only leer.
A gibbering ghost of manhood, o'er your dreams.

I am your Brother, driven forth to die!
These are your cities, empires, and demesnes—
And these your doles—to toil!—and still to toil!
To render unto Caesar, not the tithe,
But all, that Caesar of his will bestow
That in his wisdom "recompense" is writ—
The helot I, your brother equal born!

These are your cities; I will make them dust!
These are your empires; they shall disappear!
These your demesnes—Forgetfulness shall be
Of all ye said, or did, or hoped, or sung!

Ye did inherit much, but did take all;
So I shall ravish in its bloom your hope,
Shall make your boast of culture all a lie,
Shall make you know the emptiness of dreams!

Hear once again the word of him ye scorn!
I am that Ishmael ye have doomed to die;
I am the fair Occasions ye have flung
Aside as void of value and of life.
I am the Fear that haunts you in your halls,
And senates, and the temples of your God.
And as your systems crumble and decay
Heed well that I did tell you and now tell—
I am the shifting sand beneath the State!

The Ultimate Lie

(G. K. CHESTERTON in *London News*)

They have tried to set up the preposterous pretense that those who are rich in a State are rich in their own merit, and that those who are poor in a State are poor by their own fault. Mr. Kipling, in his swan song of suicide in the *Morning Post*, speaks of the unemployed laborer as the man "whose unthrift has destroyed him." He speaks of the modern landlord as the man who has toiled, who has striven and gathered possession. Now there are some occasions upon which a blasphemy against fact renders unimportant even a blasphemy against religion. It is so in these cases in which calamity is made a moral curse or proof of guilt.

It becomes quite a secondary fact that this new Tory theory is opposed to the Christian theory at every point, at every instant of history, from the boils of Job to the leprosy of Father Damien. It does not matter for the moment that the thing is un-Christian. The thing is a lie; every one knows it to be a lie; the men who speak and write it know it to be a lie. They know as well as I do that the men who climb to the top of the modern ladder are not the best men, nor the cleverest, nor even the most industrious. Nobody who has ever talked to poor men on seats in Battersea Park can conceivably believe that they are the worst men of the community. Nobody who has ever talked to rich men at city dinners can conceivably believe that they are the best men of the community. On this one thesis I will admit no arguments about unconsciousness, self-deception or mere ritual phraseology. I admit all that and more most heartily to the man who says that the aristocracy as a whole is good for England or that poverty as a whole cannot be cured.

But if a man says that in his experience the thrifty thrive and only the unthrifty perish, then (as St. John the Evangelist says) he is a liar. This is the ultimate lie and all who utter it are liars.

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"DELIGHTFUL, mediaeval America! Always in the intimate personal confidence of the Almighty," is the comment of George Bernard Shaw in reference to the remark of a New York magistrate, who, in denouncing a shirt-waist striker, declared that the defendant was "striking against God."

Mediaeval nothing! On the contrary, the judicial metamorphosis of a mediaeval God into a modern shirt-waist factory owner, brings Deity strictly up to date, so to speak. Mr. Shaw doesn't seem to understand that public opinion here does not regard a knowledge of theology or economics as an essential qualification for the politicians from whom our judges are selected. We merely require them to do their duty, which is to side with the shearers against the shorn—with the capitalist against the worker, and this the magistrate in question did. That he utilized God in this process is a minor matter at most. It's immaterial what the judge says; it's what he does that counts.

Mr. Shaw should accept one of those numerous invitations to come to this country and see us as we really are. We may perhaps be a nation of villagers in other respects, but where up-to-date methods of coercing the laborer in the interests of the capitalist are concerned, we have nothing to learn from England or any other country on earth.

THE special commission appointed by the late Mayor McClellan of New York to consider the question of "equal pay for equal work" agitated so vigorously by the women teachers, has, as might have been expected, returned an adverse report. Its general finding, to quote the New York *Tribune*, was "that the market price ought to control, and that the city ought to have the benefit if the market price of women's labor is less than that of men."

In this decision we have two "oughts" in conflict. "Women who do equal work with men," say the women teachers, "ought to have equal pay." "The market price ought to control" says the special commission. And the special commission verdict stands. Between the two "oughts," might makes right.

Perhaps this finding is not as it "should" be, but it is as it "must" be under our present competitive wage system. Whether a woman produces educated children or shirtwaists, the law is the same—the market price of labor governs both.

One is tempted to declare that such a highly educated group as the women teachers "ought" to understand the commodity character of labor, but seemingly they don't. The special commission has imparted to them that very valuable lesson and we sincerely hope they will profit much by it. WILSHIRE'S heartily agrees with the principle enunciated by the women teachers that equal work should be rewarded with equal pay, regardless of the sex of the worker. But wages, are not now, never were, and never will be governed by considerations of ethics or morality. The wage question is in its very nature solely an economic question in which morality, ethics and justice have no place.

Equal pay for men and women doing equal work can only be realized when labor ceases to be a commodity and subject to the market price of commodities. And this in turn cannot be until the competitive wage system is supplanted by the co-operative system, or in other words, Socialism. But of course the women teachers could hardly expect the special commission to give them that information in addition.

IT may at first appear strange to find such a strenuous champion of law and order as the New York *Times* giving its editorial endorsement to the supposedly all-round vicious practice of bomb-throwing, but seemingly there are circumstances when right thinking people can approve of the use of the missile supposed to be peculiar to anarchists. When Karpoff, the chief of the secret police of St. Petersburg, was recently blown to fragments by one of these murderous instruments, the *Times*, like most of its contemporaries, duly performed the editorial spasms proper to such an occasion.

But a press dispatch from St. Louis relating the fact that several prominent citizens of that burg had exploded bombs in the home of a local "society" editor, who had "slandered" them in his paper, furnished the *Times* an opportunity of exhibiting some fine editorial discrimination anent bombs and bomb-throwers. The following extracts are from its editorial column of December 14:

> Somehow the incident lends a certain dignity to the surreptitious employment of explosive bombs which it has hitherto lacked. . . . .
>
> In St. Louis, blood runs high, and there is after all some sort of crude justice in punishing slander with an explosive bomb. . . . .
>
> We cannot applaud bomb-using, but we shall continue to feel a sort of savage satisfaction in the St. Louis use of bombs, unless it shall turn out, as we more than half suspect, that the bombs were quite harmless, and their employment was not sanctioned by the victims of the slander at all. It is just possible that they were advertising bombs.

Not being a Socialist publication, the *Times* of course is in no danger of suppression for endorsing bomb-throwing in this fashion. There is "a certain dignity" and what is more to the purpose, a certain safety, when a proper discrimination is made in the employment of bombs. Their use against the slanderers of the rich may be in some sort tolerated, but as against the murderers of the poor no justification of any kind is possible.

IN the November and December issues of the *Popular Science Monthly* may be found an interesting essay by Professor Arthur O. Lovejoy of the University of Missouri, entitled "The Argument for Organic Evolution Before 'The Origin of Species'," in which the writer marshals a large and convincing amount of evidence from the works of biologists previous to Darwin, which he holds are or were amply sufficient to establish the theory of Organic Evolution without waiting for Darwin's epoch-making volume. But as Professor Lovejoy points out, while these views were universally rejected by the specialists as a body, many of the very scientists who afterward became noted champions and advocates of Darwinism, among them the famous Huxley, also utterly refused to countenance the evolution theory as applied to organic life, though as Professor Lovejoy contends, there was ample evidence to establish it in the writings of many pre-Darwinian biologists.

Professor Lovejoy gives as a reason for this attitude, the general fear of the *odium theologicum* strongly prevalent at the time, a reason, however, which certainly does not explain the attitude of Huxley, who was an open and fearless antagonist of the Christian theology, and others of less note but of the same general attitude. Professor Lovejoy is at no loss to account for the opposition of the scientists of

the day who were professing Christians, like Cuvier, Agassiz, Miller and others, but that Huxley should occupy a similar position toward the evolution theory is a matter he does not attempt to account for.

A historical parallel from the present could be easily drawn here. The attitude of the majority of our professional political economists toward Socialism is exactly that of the pre-Darwinian scientists Professor Lovejoy writes of. There is even more evidence to-day on which to establish the principle of evolution in industry and trace its course—an evolution leading unerringly to Socialism—than there was to establish organic evolution before 1859, but now, as then, the attitude of the majority of specialists is similar. The "Das Kapital" of Karl Marx has been by no means such an epoch-making work among the political economists as Darwin's "Origin of Species" proved to be for the biologists. However, this is much more than offset by the fact that over thirty millions of the working classes of the world find their motive and inspiration to action in the philosophy growing from the momentous generalizations of Marx. It is doubtful if the theory of evolution as applied to all subjects outside the industrial and political, has one tenth of this number of intelligent adherents throughout the entire world.

The characteristic of Socialism as a distinctive working class philosophy, is undoubtedly the main reason for the attitude of the majority of professional political economists toward it, though fortunately its establishment depends in no way either on their acceptance or rejection.

FROM the experience derived from a controversy with Mr. Burke Cockran several years ago, and which was at the time published in this journal, we knew that as a general proposition, Mr. Cockran's knowledge of Socialism was by no means so great as he would like to have it thought, but we were hardly prepared for such an amazing confession of ignorance on this subject as that gentleman displayed in his introduction of Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., at the Lotos Club recently. Mr. Cockran's remarks on the occasion were thus reported in the press:

"Of the two old parties in England one charges the other with Socialism from stupidity, the other charges the first with Socialism for cupidity. Both are bidding for support of the Socialist Party. But there is a fourth party, and that stands like a rock in the torrent of Socialistic propaganda. It is the Irish party. There never was an Irish Socialist. There never was, so far as I know, an Irishman who furthered these principles, subversive of individual rights, the main feature of our civilization. The Irishman's instinctive opposition to Socialism is the strongest barrier to its march on the fortifications of our social order. I speak of this to show that Mr. O'Connor embodies not merely the cause of Ireland, but the principles on which stands representative government, on which civilization itself must rest."

While Mr. Cockran was thus delivering himself, over in Harlem, not ten minutes' ride away, the Harlem Liberal Club at 116th street was being filled by the Irish Socialist Federation in a protest meeting against the Spokane outrages. The speakers were Thomas Flynn, P. L. Quinlan, M. W. Bredin, Mrs. Alice Cassidy, Jack Walsh and Edward Cassidy, the meeting being reported for the press by Katherine Flynn.

At the same time, less than a mile away, James Connolly, editor of the New York Irish Socialist organ, *The Harp,* was preparing copy for the January issue of the paper.

Again, at the same time the columns of the Catholic religious press were filled with editorial complaints regarding the deluge of letters sent in from Irish Catholic Socialists, defending Socialism against clerical assault.

And still again, at the same time the Socialists of Dublin, Ireland, over a thousand strong, were starting their weekly paper, while the local priests were busily engaged in a political crusade against their activity.

But of all these things, Mr. Cockran knew nothing. It is a very convenient theory for a politician to assume that what he doesn't know of, therefore doesn't exist.

IN an editorial discussion of the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy in our November issue, we pointed out how and why the tide of battle was turning against the would-be preserver of the public domain. Since then the genial Mr. Taft has summarily dismissed Pinchot from office, in order to preserve the dignity of the government, the Chief Forester's zeal having outrun his judgment. The capitalist press, of course, supports Mr. Taft in the matter, while hypocritically deploring Pinchot's lack of discretion.

That there is some ground for the charge can hardly be denied. If Mr. Pinchot really wished to hold his office he certainly displayed poor judgment, and a most mistaken estimate of the "public opinion" which he expected would sustain him in protecting the remnant of the public domain from the greedy hands of private capital.

The trouble with Forester Pinchot was that he took his office too seriously. A politician of better judgment would have understood the nature of the position. While holding on to the emoluments, he would have thoroughly comprehended that its ostensible object, the conservation of the public domain, was under our present régime something like what its enemies say of Socialism, "a beautiful theory, but it won't work," for the reason that there are too many powerful private interests that will not permit it.

Some time ago we alluded to Mr. Pinchot as a "near-Socialist," but expressed scepticism as to the successful accomplishment of his object. An environment dominated by capitalist grabbers and land-thieves will naturally paralyze the efforts of any sincere and honest official who undertakes work of this kind. Now that Mr. Pinchot is out, however, and still declares his intention to carry on the struggle, there would seem to be no field for the exercise of his activity except that afforded by the Socialist movement. There alone can he find action, and there he logically belongs.

ELSEWHERE in this issue we reproduce a photograph of a building constructed in England by Socialist handicraftsmen, which is to serve as a meeting place and at the same time a memorial of the great craftsman, William Morris, who was a native of the locality. The building, which is a rare combination of beauty and utility, and most solidly and substantially constructed, is in itself a material refutation of the objection of our opponents that under Socialism the arts and crafts would decay and disappear and society be reduced to a dead level of sordid ugliness, the actual fact being that such a condition exists now as a direct result of the capitalistic régime. The example set by our English comrades in this respect, is one which might well be followed by American Socialists. A number of such meeting places erected by local Socialists in our smaller cities, would secure a publicity which would go far to strengthen and extend our propaganda, and we sincerely hope that the movement will soon be in a position to make at least a beginning in this direction.

Mr. John Kenneth Turner might as well understand that respectable people simply will not countenance the term "Barbarous" being applied to any country in which capital can be safely invested.

A million dollar dry-goods store is to be erected on the site formerly occupied by a New York Presbyterian Church, the expectation being that the congregation of women worshippers will not be in the least diminished.

Several recent deaths from starvation among the applicants in the Bowery breadline would seem to indicate that Mr. Taft's kindly address to these unfortunates was not quite as satisfying as was at first supposed.

The editor of the *New World,* a Roman Catholic publication in Chicago, gives it as his opinion that "the Saints of Socialism should be haloed with hell-pots of seething steel," an evident recognition that Socialists are not quite so hot-headed as he thinks they should be.

Electricity and Agriculture

By ODON POR, *Special European Correspondent, Wilshire's*

THE demand for agricultural products is rapidly increasing, while the exodus of the people from the farms to the cities is taking on alarming proportions. Our industrial civilization, centered in the big cities, draws the young people with its glittering promises away from the farms. Farm work is considered dull, the farms are being deserted and the farmers are considered dull and reactionary people. This situation is really critical in every industrial country. But scientific progress is coming to save the situation, give a new impetus to agriculture, and pour new ideas into the farmers.

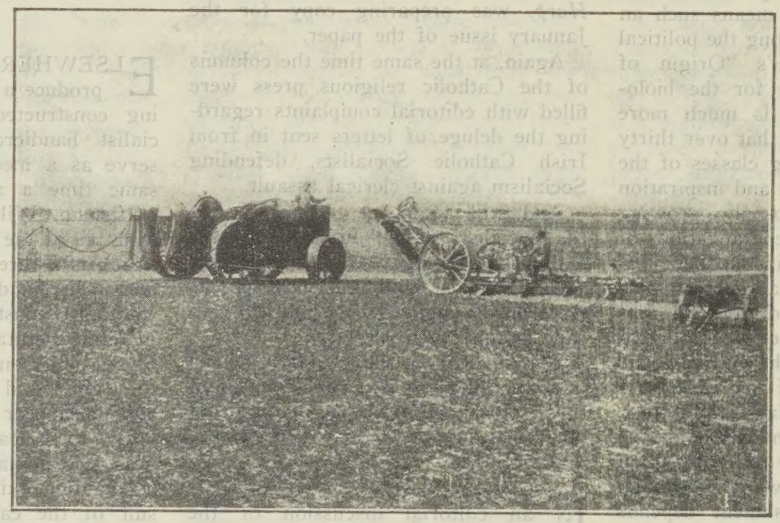
Recent discoveries in all lines of agriculture impress the observer with the fact that an agricultural revolution is impending. Burbank, Nilsson and De Vries have shown us, on a large scale, the possibility of quickly perfecting the existing fruits and vegetables: they have created new fruits and made edible fruits that hitherto were left untouched by man and animals. Biffen has conquered the rust, the most serious enemy of the wheat farmer, by creating a variety of wheat immune to that disease. There will be enough seed of this variety, in a short time, to eliminate rust all over the world, and thus save five hundred million dollars per year. Biffen succeeded also in creating a species of wheat and barley that combines a large cropping capacity with a high gluten content. The breeding of animals, the selecting of finer and more useful species, is being put on an increasingly certain basis. There is no telling where this creating, transforming and improving will end, nor what forms of social co-operation will be called into existence in order to put in practice these new scientific discoveries in agriculture.

The growing scarcity of human labor on the farms imposes the necessity of intensive production and a wide application of technical means. Hitherto the United States and England furnished the best agricultural machines and tools and were the model countries as to methods of cultivation. But Germany, Hungary and France are now superseding these countries by creating new types of machinery and introducing new methods of cultivation.

During the last twenty years the number of land laborers in Germany decreased by three million, while the crops increased very considerably. This is entirely due to the fact that the German farmers have realized that the greatest possible intensity of cultivation is the safest means whereby to control the forces of nature. Modern farming in Germany, and of course everywhere where intensive production is the rule, is becoming an industrial enterprise; the farms are becoming agrar-technical plants.

Germany leads the nations in the use of electrical machines in agriculture. Numerous farms have their own power stations or produce power co-operatively, for driving the various electric machines, for cultivation, harvesting and transportation, for running the pumping stations for irrigation and dairy processes, for illumination and numerous other uses.

After long study and experiment, and much disappointment, the German engineers have evolved an electro-plow, capable of accomplishing any plowing work under practically all circumstances. The heavy and expensive steam plow can be used profitably only on large farms in the low lands, and exclusively for deep plowing. The electro-plow is a profitable investment even for the small farmer, for it is much cheaper than the steam plow, does the work more exactly, needs less skilled attendance than the steam plow, and can work on steep hills that a horse plow can hardly climb. It is a light and very durable machine and can be easily transported. Experts have figured out, on the basis of 200,000 acres cultivated by this instrument, that electro-plowing costs about one-third of steam plowing.



Scientific Agriculture In Germany. The Electro Plow.

It is conclusively demonstrated by exact figuring that the net product of the German farmers could be increased at least 33 per cent. by the introduction of the electro-plow and all the other numerous electrical appliances. The electro-plow has made it possible for the German farmers to open up for wheat cultivation lands which were inaccessible to the old methods of plowing. With the electro-plow Germany could produce all the wheat consumed in the country and consequently dispense with the importation of wheat. Without extending the area of cultivation, the German farmers could double their wheat and treble their potato crop by merely introducing the exact and scientific plowing made possible by the electro-plow.

It is significant that the same technical experts say that only a co-operative organization on a large scale and with a wide social outlook, could solve the difficult problem of financing and organizing the transformation of present agriculture into a scientific electro-technical enterprise. To establish the power-stations for long-distance transmission of electrical energy, to use the water-power economically, to put up the wires, to buy and build the new machines and the electric farm railroads, in short, the whole technical transformation can materialize, feasibly and economically, only through the merging of individual interests with the collective interest.

Recently another exceptionally important application of electricity in agriculture has been brought to perfection. Electro-culture, the influencing of plant-growth by electricity, has passed out of the experimental stage and is ready to be introduced on a large scale.

Prof. Lemström, of Helsingfors, Finland, during his frequent trips to the arctic regions, observed that there the development of the plants is accomplished more rapidly than in moderate climates, despite the heavy frosts during the nights. And he observed also that, notwithstanding the primitive methods of cultivation, the rye and barley are, both in quantity and quality, not behind the best German crop. He proved that this phenomenon is due to atmospheric electricity, which is far stronger in these latitudes than elsewhere.

Following on the lines of this discovery, he began, some 25 years ago, experimenting, on a small scale, with plants in pots, putting them under a net of wires charged with electricity. The plants thus exposed to electricity developed with extraordinary rapidity. He then repeated his experiments in the open air with plants set in the ground, and obtained marvelous results, in many cases getting twice the amount of plants from the field under the influence of electricity than from the "control field," where the same species of plants were growing but isolated from electrical influence. It is most remarkable that not only the quantity of the crop was increased, but the time of ripening was also shortened. Strawberries ripened in twenty-eight days under electro-culture, while they required fifty-four days to ripen in the "control-field." And not only the leaves and the fruit of the plants showed a marked difference, but also their roots. The general quality also improved, it being chemically ascertained that sugar beets treated with electricity contained 18 per cent. more sugar than the beets of the "control-field."

Lemström's experiments were taken up in France, England and Germany, and soon the fact was established that these

striking results were independent of climatic conditions, and that they remain the same in all climates and in all soils, and that anybody, by following Lemström's instructions, can considerably increase his crops.

On a farm near Breslau, Germany, electrification increased the strawberry crop 128 per cent., barley 140 per cent., and the bean crop 32 per cent. Similar results were obtained in Sweden on a farm of about thirty acres.

After Lemström's death, the experimenting stopped for a while, but was taken up again by a young English electrician, Mr. Newman, who, together with Sir Oliver Lodge, one of the greatest living scientists, worked out a very simple and cheap method of practical electro-agriculture.

The farm of Mr. Bomford, near Birmingham, England, has been for the last four years the scene of most fascinating experiments of extraordinary social importance. It is interesting to note that the first steam plow was tried on this farm.

About ninety acres are treated here with electricity. A number of wires are stretched over the field on low poles, but high enough for loaded carts to pass and all ordinary farming operations to go on without any hindrance. The power is supplied by an oil engine and a dynamo. The electrification is maintained a few hours during each day. The consumption of energy is insignificant when compared with the results obtained.

Sir Oliver Lodge recently made public the results, stating that the increase in the wheat crop was "but" 30 to 40 per cent. Considering the fact that Lodge experimented on a large scale, and under average practical agricultural conditions, this is a stupendous result. The 100 to 120 per cent. increase above mentioned came from laboratory and garden experiments conducted under specially favorable circumstances.

The scientific chemical tests made by the Bakery School, in Birmingham, found the electrified wheat richer in certain contents and better for baking purposes. This was confirmed by the experience of the bakers, who willingly paid 7½ per cent. more for this electrified wheat than for the ordinary kind.

In Germany, Mr. Max Breslauer, Professor at the University of Charlottenburg, has experimented in this line with great success. He put, this year, three farms of two hundred and twenty-two acres each, under electric treatment, and installed an experimental station for the University of Halle, Germany. At the date of this writing the results are not known yet, but Mr. Breslauer will communicate them to me as soon as they are figured out, and I will publish them in WILSHIRE'S MAGAZINE. On the basis of the results hitherto obtained, he puts the cost of an electro-culture plant for two hundred and twenty-two acres at $1,200, machinery, wiring and instalment included. Five kilowatt hours per day suffices for the treatment of this field. This amount of power would cost in Germany 25 cents per day; 150 days per year are enough for a successful electrification of the fields. Counting the expenses for extra labor, the interest on the invested capital, amortization, etc., the electrification of these two hundred and twenty-two acres would cost $250 per year. A farm of this size yields in Germany, under normal circumstances, $2,400 worth of wheat; with electric treatment it would yield, under the most disadvantageous conditions, 30 per cent., or $733 more. The net profit yielded by electro-culture would thus amount to $483.

Without going exhaustively into the very interesting theoretical explanations of the phenomena of electro-growth, we can predict from securely established facts that a new and powerful lever of agricultural development has been discovered. When these facts are widely known, it will be quite a commonplace thing to the farmer to treat his field with electricity, just as indispensable a work as fertilizing or cultivating with machines.

The introduction of scientific methods of cultivation and the industrialization of farm work will immensely stimulate the interest in agriculture; it will force the farmers to take up scientific study in order to keep pace with progress; it will bring them in contact with all sorts of new machines that will enhance their skill. Above all, it will force them to throw overboard their "individualism" and to seek co-operation, for, isolated, they will have neither sufficient financial resources nor the technical knowledge necessary for the introduction of these new methods of production.

The whole mental attitude of the farmers will be inevitably changed. They will feel the need of cheap water-power and cheap coal, and the urgent necessity will dawn upon them of dethroning the Water-Kings and the Coal-Kings.* The lonely farm communities will become vast industrial centers, full of intensified and pulsating life. The dulness of farm life will vanish, for the endless new scientific and social problems, kept in the foreground by the industrial transformation, will keep the imagination of the farmers alert. The new impulse given by science and technical progress will be felt in all manifestations of life.

For want of space, however, I leave it to the reader to imagine the inevitable economic and social transformations that must come in the wake of these discoveries.

(Concerning the electrical machines, and especially the electro-plow, see the articles by Kurt Krohne in the Elektrotechnische Zeitschrift, XXIX. Jahrgang, Heft 39, 40, 41. On electro-culture, Dr. Max Breslauer in the Elektrochemische Zeitschrift, August, 1909. Dr. Max Breslauer, Berlin-Hoppegarten, Germany, will answer every inquiry as to electro-culture. I hope that some enterprising American farmer, with a scientific turn of mind, will become interested in these discoveries and erect the first electro-culture plant in America.)

* See my article "The Water Kings *vs.* The Nation," WILSHIRE'S for May, 1909.

THE GENIUS AND THE IDIOT

"Bezique" in London Clarion

The Genius and the Idiot, wrecked on a desert strand,
Were weeping hard to see around such quantities of sand:
"If it were only sugar," cried the Idiot, "'twould be grand!"

"In socialistic countries," quoth the Genius one day,
"You'd be my equal, it appears, and draw the self-same pay;
But here I'm your superior!" The Idiot cried, "Eh!"

"You see I've more intelligence than you—this is no quirk—
I hate all beastly duties, they a man of talent irk;
So 'tis your end you'll plainly see, to up and do the work!"

He found the Idiot a spade, and called it "Capital,"
And forthwith sunned him in a mead and sipped a cordial;
When on his ease there brake a voice, a-calling: "'Ere, old pal!

Do I do ALL the digging, then?" observed the Idiot,
"While you sit down and sun yourself in some fair fragrant spot?"
"I found you work," said Genius. "To grumble, friend, is rot!"

Uprose that silly Idiot, as though stung by a gnat,
And cried, "I'll only do my share, and you'll do yours, that's flat;
I may be sappy in the head, but not so soft as that!"

Quite vexed, the Genius remarked: "You're sweeping Law away,
The Sanctity of Home—and things, religion, too, you slay.
I'll find you no more work, my friend!" The Idiot cried, "Hooray!"

And so the Genius sulked in spleen, and at Rebellion cried,
Whilst all day long the Idiot his mattock fiercely plied;
What Nature gave him in return, he kept—and Genius died.

Pasadena's Electric Rates

(Inyo Register, Bishop, Cal.)

An electric lighting company in Pasadena was charging its patrons for current for lighting purposes at the rate of fifteen cents per kilowatt hour. It has now established a new rate card under which the charge will be five cents—in Pasadena. Charges by the same company in Los Angeles are unchanged. Los Angeles consumers will pay nearly twice as much as consumers in Pasadena. Why? Competitive municipal operation there of a public utility.

Beginning Jan. 1, under the new schedule, small consumers will pay at the rate of five cents per kilowatt hour and the charge will be "graduated down as low as four cents for heavy consumers." Obviously the object is to drive the municipal plant out of business—the municipal plant that put the charge down to eight cents per kilowatt as against the fifteen cents that had been exacted from consumers by the same company that is now preparing to charge but five.

Charging eight cents, the municipal plant made a profit sufficiently large to show how great were the gains exacted under the company's fifteen cent rate.—Los Angeles Express.

The Pasadena municipal plant having reduced its rate to 3 cents for large consumers and 7 cents for small ones, the Edison Company goes it one better in that city. Its new sliding scale is 2¾ cents per kilowatt for 2,000 or more kilowatts per month; 3¼ for 1,000 to 2,000; 4¼ for 500 to 1,000; 4¾ for 100 to 500; 5 cents for 100 or less.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Final official returns of the recent municipal election in New York City give the Socialist Party 11,768 votes, the S. L. P., receiving a total of 1,256. In New York County, which includes Manhattan and Bronx, these parties received respectively, 6,811 and 813. Hearst polled in the Greater City no less than 154,187 votes.

Doctor Cook it seems got but a hundred thousand dollars for his lecture and magazine work on his discredited discovery of the North Pole. Public morality is at a very low ebb indeed, when an individual can be found to actually lie for such a paltry sum.

Seventy-five per cent. of the output of Japanese matches are taken by China; European and American exports of this product having become a negligible quantity.

Boiled down to a simple statement the increased cost of necessities merely means that the producers are getting less of their product than before.

During the first six months of last year there were 398,710 births in France, and 426,913 deaths, the latter exceeding the former by 28,203.

The moral of most of those obituary notices of the late Leopold of Belgium seems to indicate that to be "a good business man" covers a multitude of scoundrelisms.

The Austro-Hungarian Government has undertaken the maintenance of an institution devoted to purposes of radium research. The building contains seven laboratories, and is the first of its kind in the world.

In a recent address at Chicago, Judge Peter Grosscup, speaking on the destruction of Trusts, declared that we "might as well pass statutes abolishing the solar system." Then he proceeded to advocate their "regulation." Judge Grosscup evidently doesn't believe in carrying an analogy too far.

Trust prosecutions are not altogether useless in that they serve as a species of natural selection through which the survival of the fittest corporation lawyers is decided.

Within the last two years, American syndicates have acquired considerably over two million acres of the best agricultural land in Mexico. The purchase of land by American capitalists is now proceeding at a most rapid rate.

Following as closely as they dared, the American precedent in the Fornaro case, the Russian Government has just sentenced a publisher to twelve months' imprisonment for publishing a book by Tolstoi.

The new passenger rates on the Swiss Government Railways permit one person to travel for twelve months for $144.75, first class; $101.32 second class, and $72.37, third class. For two persons for the same time, the rates are respectively $193, $125.10 and $96.50.

So far as "regulating" the Trusts is concerned, we believe that Messrs. Rockefeller and Morgan are quite as competent and considerably more able to do so, than the politicians who represent them in Congress and Senate.

A merger of great Canadian iron, steel and coal companies is announced with a total combined capitalization of nearly $60,000,000. The company claims to have a bed of ore estimated at two hundred million tons in Newfoundland, while the collieries owned by the concern are practically inexhaustible.

Of 1,347 strikes in Germany in 1908, 206 were successful, 437 partly successful and 704 unsuccessful. During the year the number of lock-outs was 177, of which 56 per cent. were successful in bringing the workers to terms, 39 per cent. were adjusted or partly successful and 4.5 per cent. unsuccessful.

The strike may perhaps be an "evidence of prosperity," but it's the kind of evidence that is usually suppressed.

In the following British cities where the production of gas is undertaken by the municipalities, the price of the product per thousand feet is thus given in a consular report: Birmingham, 47.8 cents; Glasgow, 55.4 cents; Manchester, 54.08 cents; Sheffield, 30 cents; Nottingham, 60.06 cents; Leeds, 49.08 cents, and Widnes, 24 cents.

That judge who appointed Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., as a grand juror to investigate the organized "white slave traffic," made a wise choice. No one better than young John D. understands the necessity of all kinds of traffic being organized.

The telephone and telegraph monopoly, now forming under the control of J. Pierpont Morgan, is to introduce a device which will do away with the services of messenger boys. The telephone subscriber can write his dispatch on an electrical device which will instantaneously reproduce it in the telegraph office.

If you imagine that rich men cannot be sent to jail in this country, just watch what happens to aspiring capitalists who, like Mr. Morse, attempt to establish unauthorized trusts to compete with those already in control.

The number of co-operative banks in Ireland has increased from one in 1895 to 273 in 1908. They are composed of associations of small farmers, and are organized by an association known as the Irish Agricultural Organization Society.

In the recent discussion of Socialism in the British House of Lords, not a single member described it as impracticable or not likely to come in a thousand years. Sometimes the fear of Socialism is the beginning of wisdom.

Nearly nineteen million acres are under cotton in India for the present season, an increase of 10 per cent. over last season. The cotton growing areas of the world outside of the United States are increasing with great rapidity, especially in Asia and Africa.

Operatives in Mexican cotton factories receive 50 cents for a work-day of eleven hours. On the cotton plantations the laborers receive 37½ cents for the same number of hours.

The authorities of the Boston Public Library have decided to preserve Dr. Frederick A. Cook's book on his discovery of the North Pole, in the department allotted to "the literature of imposture," where we presume the numerous volumes on capitalist political economy will also be finally deposited.

A recent revision of rates on parcels sent to the United States, through the British Government Postal Service, raises the maximum weight from four pounds six ounces to eleven pounds. Since the two cent rate on letters between Great Britain and the United States has been in operation, the number of letters between the two countries has increased 25 per cent.

The denial that might makes right is always more positive and emphatic before might has actually made the demonstration.

Usually the people who object to Socialism as a "dividing up" scheme, have no objection to "dividends" produced by the labor of others, when they themselves happen to be the recipients.

The salt industry in Italy is a government monopoly, the revenue derived from it being appropriated to government expenditures. The Government both imports and exports salt, and its importation and production are forbidden to private individuals.

Like the Socialist, the non-Socialist workingman has also nothing to lose but his chains, the only difference being that the latter doesn't know enough to want to lose them.

Latest statistics of the Co-operative Societies of Great Britain show a total of 171 engaged in distribution, and 35 in production in Wales alone, and the number is increasing rapidly.

Necessity knows no law, and the Trust being a necessity can therefore afford to ignore it.

The Brazilian Government is to undertake a vast irrigation project in the three states, Ceara, Parahyba and Rio Grande do Norte, and will open up these states by an extensive railroad system which it will also construct in connection with the irrigation work.

We would suggest as a reason why the people don't go "Back to the Land," that they are going "Forward to Socialism" instead.

The Japanese Government has established a cigarette factory at New-Chwang, Manchuria. Japanese workmen will fill the principal positions, while unskilled work will be performed by 250 Chinese boys at wages of three cents per day. The American Tobacco Trust has heretofore supplied Manchuria, and the Japanese have determined to secure a share of the trade.

It is quite true that the capitalist advocates the open shop for the sake of principle—also interest—and profit.

The beet sugar industry has made a definite start in England, a company with a capital of over $600,000 having made an arrangement with 250 farmers for a constant supply of beets. A mill is being erected which will deal with 500 tons of beets a day.

In these days of big business it is quite natural that Dr. Cook, having only made a trifling hundred thousand dollars out of his fake discovery, should be generally discredited.

A ten thousand acre tract in Brazil has been acquired by a Japanese syndicate. It proposes to establish an agricultural colony with Japanese laborers.

The municipality of Liverpool, England, is erecting new and sanitary dwellings to accommodate 2,828 persons, in all 558 buildings. Over ten thousand people are already housed in buildings constructed by the municipality.

The Socialist press in Finland is reported to be in such a flourishing condition that the capitalist papers cannot stand the competition, four of them having already suspended publication, and many others are on the point of doing so.

With the cost of foodstuffs continually rising, "plain living and high thinking" becomes a virtue easily constructed out of necessity.

Progress and Poverty

(*Special to the N. Y. World.*)

Chicago, Jan. 2.—Twenty-five prominent men of the country contribute expressions of opinion as to the force of Christ's teachings in politics, business and international relations during the last two decades in a symposium read to-night before the Plymouth League of the First Congregational Church, Oak Park. Opinions are unanimous that the spirit of Christ is a greater force now than formerly.

(*Special to the N. Y. World.*)

Chicago, Jan. 2.—Chicago awoke from its New Year's celebration to learn that 1909 had gone out on a wave of crime without parallel in the police records of the city. Two hold-up men were killed in trying to rob saloons; another was fatally wounded; a thief shot a saloonkeeper; one man met death in a drunken quarrel; two murders followed in the wake of love affairs and a woman was shot and a boy wounded in the holiday celebration. The end of December brought to a climax the worst month of thuggery the city has known. More than 300 houses were entered by burglars in the month. The number of reported hold-ups and street robberies is 134.

(*Headlines, N. Y. World, Jan. 4.*)

Over $240,000,000 Paid in Dividends or Interest Here. Greatest January Disbursement by Banks to Holders of Securities in the History of Wall Street Proof of Trade Revival Throughout the Country. Failures of 1909 Much Fewer than in 1908, with Greatly Reduced Liabilities.

(*Headlines, N. Y. World, Jan. 4.*)

Two Men in Bread Line Drop Dying from Hunger. Aged One Expires at Once and a Hundred Hungry Sufferers Reach Across His Body to Clutch the Food. Younger of Pair, Taken to Bellevue, Cannot Live. Older Victim, 60, Had Supported Companion, 28, to Haven that Held Hope.

A WILLIAM MORRIS MEMORIAL HALL

This beautiful and substantial structure recently completed at Walthamstow, near London, as a meeting place and lecture hall, is unique in that it is the only building in England which has been literally constructed by local Socialists in their spare time. It is called the William Morris Hall, and was completed in about six months, the official opening taking place on December 18 of last year.

Many comrades contributed their artistic knowledge and craftsmanship to the beautifying of the building. One designed an ornate lead-light window for the front; another, an Italian comrade, modeled a beautiful bust of Morris, which was unveiled with appropriate ceremony at the official opening, while others contributed tapestry, ornamental brass and metal work and various other decorations. The entire work was a labor of love from beginning to end.

At the opening ceremonies on December 18, which were attended by many prominent English Socialists, Walter Crane, the great English artist, made a splendid address on the ideals of art held by Morris, and while unveiling the bust, praised its workmanship as highly artistic. Walthamstow, by the way, was the birthplace of Morris.

There is some debt on the building yet, and Comrade Charles E. Buck, secretary of the local, will be glad to accept any donations American comrades may make toward wiping out the debt. He writes that he has already received some financial assistance from America and considers it a splendid evidence of the international character of our movement. His address is 9 Stainforth Row, Walthamstow, England.

Industrial Unionism

"WHY Strikes Are Lost—How To Win" is the promising title of a five-cent pamphlet issued by the Industrial Literature Bureau at 305 West 127th Street, New York, the author William E. Trautmann being one of the most prominent and active members in the organization known as the Industrial Workers of The World. He points out with much truth the fact that most strikes are lost owing to the lack of industrial solidarity among the workers, Unions being to-day mostly organized on the principle of craft autonomy, each union that enters into an economic struggle with the employers is fatally handicapped by lack of support from other workers of different crafts. That this is true, few will deny. Mr. Trautmann advocates as a remedy for this state of affairs, the industrial form of union as opposed to craft unionism, claiming that by presenting a united front to the employers in the event of a strike the prospects of victory are much brighter. However completely demonstrable as this is, it by no means follows that the suggestion will be accepted and acted upon with any great alacrity, the comparatively poor success of the Industrial Workers of the World seeming to prove this. As a matter of fact, a grasp of the fundamental truths of Socialism is first necessary before even a simple truth like the superiority of industrial over craft forms of trade unionism can be understood sufficiently to impel people to take the initiative to putting it in practice and forming labor organizations on a new basis. Practically all the ablest and most persistent members of the Industrial Workers of the World are Socialists, and it would seem that only through persistent and long-continued Socialist propaganda can the Industrial Unionists find the necessary conditions to make their organization powerful and successful. The non-Socialist union member, strange though it may seem, is usually too deficient in intelligence to grasp at once the truths of industrial unionism and bestir himself for their practical application.

Mysteries of Economics

IT is with peculiar satisfaction that the Socialist sees from time to time statements made in the editorial columns of high-class journals that are merely echoes, though unconsciously so, of positions taken by Socialist thinkers generations ago. For instance, every well-read Socialist is familiar with a position taken by Marx to the effect that the capitalist system of production was a mystery to its upholders, that around money and the money form of capital had grown up a fetichism in the capitalist mind—mysterious movements and properties that presented themselves as abstractions not unlike religious concepts to the bourgeois. Here is a quotation from an editorial in the *Saturday Evening Post* of a recent date confirming this position:

> As for economics it ranks somewhere between psychology and psychics—a step, perhaps, ahead of this new fangled "eugenics" which the professors lately invented. Concerning so gross a phenomenon as the panic of two years ago there is no clear, settled opinion among the learned. We hear rappings; the table seems to tilt; a voice in the dark—possibly that of departed Little Bright Eyes—cracks a stale joke. But as to what it really signifies we are much at a loss. A round silver dollar seems about the commonest, simplest of objects, but scientifically it is as mysterious as radium.
>
> We ourselves are fond of finance and economics, because those subjects have the charm of the undiscovered. We think a new America lies somewhere concealed within them.

We suggest as an explanation for the mystery concealed in the "round silver dollar" that money being the real god of the business man, must, like his conventional Deity, "move in a mysterious way, its wonders to perform." However, the *Evening Post* man is undoubtedly correct in his speculation that "a new America lies somewhere concealed within them"—when the mysteries are unveiled by Socialism, we might add.

A sample copy of this issue is an invitation to subscribe, also to give your opinion of the magazine.

OUR WOMAN'S DEPARTMENT

Conducted by MRS. GAYLORD WILSHIRE

WHY WOMEN NEED THE BALLOT

By MRS. ANNA BRANDT

THE greatest obstacle to woman's progress is to be found in her deprivation of political existence. The ballot is the one thing she needs to give her the position of a full-grown human being. At the present time she is treated like a child or an idiot except that if she commits a crime she may be fined, jailed or hanged the same as a man. Who has made the laws to this effect? The Government, or those who have the right to vote, and as men are the only ones who have the right to vote, they are to blame for the conditions of to-day.

Why is it that men think a woman cannot understand politics? Are politics harder to understand than anything else? Give us the right to vote and we will make it our business to understand politics.

Every man expects a woman to be domestic and perfect in household duties. That is a mistake. Neither women nor men are all fitted for one kind of work. All men are not good business men or good workmen. There is not one thing in which men are alike. A great many women dislike household work. Who blames them? In the never ending round of wearing, weary tasks, there is great reason for her dislike. Unfortunately men do not appreciate what she does and think women's work amounts to nothing. They are mistaken enough to think that only their own work counts, and even when a woman goes into their world and does their work as well as themselves they sneer and point out the feminine quality in it. Men prove their lack of appreciation of women's work by the fact that they consider her just wage to be board and clothes.

A wife is the cheapest laborer the husband can get. That a woman's work has a money value he does not comprehend until her death forces him to replace her in the household by a hired girl, whose wages vary from ten to twenty dollars a month. He is a surprised and astonished man at first and finally concludes it will be cheaper to get married again. Probably he proposes to the hired girl, and she, poor fool, surrenders her ten or twenty a month for a few dollars worth of clothing a year and the title of Mrs. and works harder and slaves more than she did as a girl. The keenest part of the joke is that when a wife gets any necessary article, either for the house or for her personal use, the husband regards it as a gift and gets warm around the heart thinking how generous he is and how grateful she should be. And the woman accepts it as a gift and very likely considers her husband openhearted and generous, when in truth and equity all that he gives her is simply hers by right of her position as wife and caretaker of his household. If the husband could realize before his wife is dead that she is a wage-earner, she would receive, without asking for it, a proportionate share of the family income as her indisputable right. Mill says in one of his works that when franchise was finally given to men it was regarded as a substitute for fighting and because women were not in the army and had no share in the military establishment of a country; they were not given the franchise not because of the selfishness and brutality of the men, but because the women were not present and therefore not considered. If that is the case, we have to be present and plead our cause if we want consideration. There is no reason why we should not be considered because there has never been a time in the history of world when women did not have a share in its industrial life. From dim primeval days to the world of to-day she has always been a maker of things. But like most valuable factors in the world's progress, woman's world has either been ignored or undervalued. In 1819 Mr. Hamilton, in a report to Congress, mentioned the great volume of household manufacture being made not only for domestic distribution, but for export as well. These articles were made at home where the loom and the spinning wheel formed a necessary part of the household equipment. Later on when machinery took all this work out of the home, the women followed it to the factory where they worked side by side with the men doing the same amount of work, but not receiving the same amount of wages. In the walks of life where education is a factor of success, woman has demonstrated her ability to hold her own, and in the sixty years of her opportunity to prove herself a capable human being she has established herself in the industrial and professional life of her people. There is no reason to believe she would prove less efficient in the realm of political life.

To hasten the day when women can exercise the franchise let us unite our efforts to support the Socialist Party, which is the only political party which declares Woman's Suffrage as a part of its program.

Mrs. Meta Sinclair,
Wife of Upton Sinclair, the well-known writer. Among progressive women, Mrs. Sinclair is known as a prominent and effective worker.

California Women Active

I want to tell W. N. P. L. readers about my recent visit to San Francisco and the other towns about the bay. I went up to attend the State Central Committee meeting of the Socialist Party. In that body there were just three women, Mrs. Jennie Arnott, of Palo Alto; Mrs. Sanford, of Santa Cruz, and myself. The two days of conference, under the able chairmanship of Comrade Ambrose, of San Francisco, were wonderfully harmonious, considering the trying matters considered, and the opportunity for hotheaded debate.

I had the pleasure of meeting with the women of the Wm. Morris Club, Oakland and Berkeley Unions, as well as of the lively union of Elmhurst, at the home of Mrs. Hunt, Berkeley. The meeting was called that I might have the pleasure of getting acquainted with these splendid women of the North, and that I might bear to them the greetings of the Los Angeles Union. Some of them I had known for years by name. It was a delight to meet them face to face, as well as to clasp hands again with the few I met some years ago, when we organized the State Union.

Late in the week, I met another little group of Socialist women over in San Francisco, at the home of Mrs. Pelala.

At Palo Alto, Mrs. Arnott drove us through the University grounds and then back again to the home of one of the Comrades, where we found the women holding their regular meeting out in the yard upon the green grass. They had just been reading a chapter on co-operation from Mills' "Struggle for Existence," and all entered heartily into the discussion of the same, after which there were light refreshments and a social hour.

My heart was cheered to find so many able women keenly alive to the Socialist movement. We can take courage—surely the Cause is marching on.

MARY E. GARBUTT, Los Angeles, Cal.

W.N.P.L. Correspondence

ANNUAL REPORT

Rock Island, Illinois, W.N.P.L.

Friday, November 12, 1909.

Met at home of Mrs. Edgar Owens, Rock Island.

Attendance of members, 12; visitors, 5.

Minutes read and approved.

Motion carried that we have two secretaries, a corresponding secretary and a recording secretary. Election of officers resulted as follows: President, Mrs. Rose Maass, Moline (reelected); vice-president, Mrs. Anna Carlson, Rock Island; treasurer, Mrs. Josephine Beck, Moline; recording secretary, Mrs. Anna Brandt, Moline; librarian, Mrs. M. Verhale, Rock Island.

Mrs. Rose Maass,
President, Rock Island, Ill., Branch, W. N. P. L.

Vote of thanks given to retiring officers.

Reading of "Woman's Invasion," by William Hard in *Everybody's Magazine.*

Friday, November 26, 1909.

Met at the home of Mrs. Andersen, South Heights, Rock Island.

Attendance of members, 14; visitors, 3.

Decided to send the "Progressive Woman" to the Moline and Rock Island Public Library, permission having been secured.

Mr. and Mrs. Blandy, organizers for the American Woman's League, gave a talk on the plan and purpose of the League and how the W. N. P. L. would be benefited by joining in the work of securing a local Chapter House. Much interest was aroused by the talk.

Year's Report for 1909.

Held twenty-six meetings, average attendance being 14. Average attendance of visitors, 5.

Lessons given in WILSHIRE'S MAGAZINE were read by the chairman and discussed by all members.

One hundred copies of "Socialist Woman" and five hundred leaflets distributed.

Added two new books to our circulating library, viz.: "They Must," by Rev. H. Kutter, and "Socialist Readings for Children," by Spargo.

Held three lectures: Mae Wood Simons, March 2, at Y. M. C. A., Rock Island, and Mae Wood Simons, on Labor Day, at Prospect Park, Moline; Miss Anna Maley, November 14, at Y. M. C. A., Rock Island.

Sold one dozen subscription cards for the "Progressive Woman," and six cards for the "Chicago Daily Socialist."

There were four sociables given, in which ice cream and coffee were served. Very successful.

Total receipts for year	$109.30
Expenditures	96.90
Balance on hand	12.60

ANNUAL REPORT

Livingston, Montana, W.N.P.L.

Woman's National Progressive League held its annual meeting at the home of Mrs. Rosa Bauman, October 7th. Officers were elected for the year 1910, as follows: Mrs. Rosa Bauman, president; Mrs. Thyra Wilks, vice-president; Mrs. Phoebe Benolken, financial secretary; Mrs. Flora Bartsch, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Anna Tegmyer, treasurer, and Miss Ara Baker, state organizer.

The other members of the League are: Mrs. Anna Campbell, Mrs. Anna Gollmyer, Mrs. Emily Beckman, Mrs. Dora Patterson, Mrs. Almian Beack, Miss Gerly Shrinn, Mrs. Matilda Anderson, Mrs. Florence Steeves.

We have had several good articles read and discussions on Socialism at our meetings. The following are some of the topics discussed: Socialism and the Child Labor problem; Elizabeth Cady Stanton on Socialism; Woman and the Social Problem; Frances Willard on Socialism; Woman and the Socialist Party; An Appeal to Women; Why the Socialist Women Demand Universal Suffrage.

Objections were answered, and we also took up the question box.

Our League meets twice a month, on the first and third Wednesday. All our members are very enthusiastic, and are planning to do still better this year than they have done the last.

MRS. PHOEBE BENOLKEN, Financial Secretary.

AS THE WORKERS LIVE IT

By BERTHA WILKINS STARKWEATHER

MINKA stood near the great gate of the steel mill enclosure with other women and some children. They had all brought dinners in baskets and pails. Minka's basket was new, and a clean white cloth covered the hot dinner inside.

As the whistles blew, hot and sweaty men came rushing out and soon little family groups had settled near the gate, the men eating ravenously, the women and children nibbling something by way of good fellowship. Minka smiled patiently, for Alexo was late; but he would come to the gate soon. Who kept his word like Alexo?

But after a while her smile became wistful—his dinner was getting cold and she stood in strained expectancy looking through the mill gate.

She saw men carrying stretchers into the dark house near the gate; a great explosion had occurred. The gate officer seemed much excited. He was carefully taking down names and work-numbers into his note-book as the men passed by with the stretchers.

A scrap iron cart drove up. Minka saw them dump seven bodies out on the platform before the dark house. One of the seven moaned—he was not dead yet, so the driver told the men to take him upstairs into the hospital ward instead of downstairs, into the morgue. Minka stared in wide-eyed terror.

When all the men had returned to their work, and the women and children had all gone home, the officer came out to Minka as she stood patiently waiting for Alexo.

"What's his name?" he asked.

Minka understood. She showed the officer one of Alexo's old work-cards. He turned away to inspect the list in his note-book. Then his scarred face drew up into a queer scowl.

"You better go home now, maybe he come home soon!"

She smiled stubbornly, shifted her weight to the other foot; but she remained in her place.

The interpreter, too, tried in vain to prevail upon Minka to go home. For an hour she waited; then they called for one of the women who worked downstairs in the laundry of the dark house.

This poor, unlettered woman, in the freemasonry of sex, laid her arms around Minka's shoulders and told her that Alexo was in the dark house. He had groaned as they had dumped the dead from the cart.

Minka was about to become a mother, so they could not let her take the sheet away which covered him. They told her that he was not suffering now. Only his right hand was out; his strong, rough, kind right hand. She clung to it until it was quite cold and then her neighbors came and took her away.

Even in death, Alexo had kept his word.

When Minka and her neighbors were going out of the great gate, the officer kindly brought out the basket. Minka stared at it; then she took off the white cloth, and as she looked at the little cold dinner, she fell into a deadly swoon. They sent her home in a fine carriage at the company's expense.

As the Press Reported It

CHICAGO, Sept. 16.—An unknown number of men, probably 20, were seriously injured to-day by an explosion of molten steel in the Illinois Steel Company. The men were removed to the company hospital and no information is given out about the accident.

Our Winter Study Course

TEXT BOOK—SPARGO'S "BITTER CRY OF THE CHILDREN."

Compiled by MRS. MARY OPPENHEIMER.

Lesson III. Chap. II Pages 57 . . . . 87. The School Child. Main points to be noted: Section 1. Futility of expecting efficient education when the teacher has poor material to work upon in the form of chronically underfed children too weak in mind and body to do the work required of them. Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, are concerned with investigations in regard to underfed school children. This problem of poverty in its relation to childhood and education is, to us in America quite new. Detailed investigations relating to the breakfasts of the children.

A Socialist Book for Children

Q. What makes the needless poverty, sorrow, and pain?

A. The laws and customs which make it possible for a few to own the things which all depend upon for life—the things which Socialists want to make social property.

Q. How does the ownership of these things by a few make needless poverty, sorrow, and pain?

A. Because when a few own the means of life upon which all depend, those who do not belong to the class of owners must work for wages and make the owners rich. They have to toil hard and give most of what they produce to the owners and remain poor themselves.

The above questions and answers are taken from a catechism which fills ten pages at the end of the book, "Socialist Readings for Children." This catechism is one of the many features which make the book very valuable for the education of children along Socialist lines. It is being used with great success among leaders in children's Socialist Schools.

SOCIALIST READINGS FOR CHILDREN. By John Spargo. Price, $1.00 per copy. 5 copies to one address, $3.75.

Woman's National Progressive League, 200 William Street NEW YORK, N. Y.

OUR CHILDREN'S PAGE

WE want the children to take this page for their very own. They can do with it as they like. Write letters telling us what you would like on this page. We know there must be something you would like very much indeed. Your letters, your little stories, your plays, your poems, will be given a place of honor in these columns. Wouldn't it be fine to write something nice enough to be published? Send anything you may write to the Editor of the Children's Page, who loves children, big and little, more than anything else in the world, and you may be sure she will take as much interest in your work as your own mother does.

SOCIALIST LESSONS FOR CHILDREN

By JACK BRITT GEARITY

[NOTE.—*These lessons are merely outlines, suggestive, and the teacher must supply the illustrations, which for lack of space cannot be given here.*]

LESSON V.

How Children Play

How do children play?

Very small children play alone. Little tots play with a playmate. And older children play in groups. As we grow our play changes until often it is very hard to tell where play ends and work begins.

How does baby play?

The baby plays with its own fingers and toes, or some noisy toy, such as a rattle or a squeaking doll. Baby crows and laughs and kicks, plays alone, and satisfies itself.

How do little tots play?

Little tots seldom play alone, they want a playmate. Little tots want to run and jump and shout in their play. So, very often, when there is no little boy or girl to play with, the child plays with a cat or a dog. But to be really happy the little tot must have a playmate.

How do larger children play?

Boys or girls seven or eight years old prefer to play in groups. The social spirit is beginning to develop. The desire to win the admiration of his fellows now begins to show itself in the child, and he begins to use his strength and skill and cunning for the pleasure of others. The child's chief joy is to make his playmates laugh.

Watch a group of boys playing a game of baseball, and see how each one does his best, so that his group may win. Watch a group of girls playing house or some other game, and see how much pride each one takes in making her group the best.

Now, the happiness of each child is part of the group's pleasure. If the group works well, the joy of each child is great. If one child is selfish, there is trouble and the game is broken up, and all are unhappy.

How do boys and girls play?

Children above ten prefer to play in larger groups, and their pride in the victory of the group is much more intense. The games of these older children depend on the hearty good will of the entire group. If all play fair, all are happy. If one cheats or sulks, the game is spoiled and the whole crowd are unhappy. So, then, the big lesson which the children learn from their play is that the joy of each depends upon the happiness of all.

Come, I will make the continent indissoluble;
I will make the most splendid race the sun ever yet shone upon;
I will make divine magnetic lands,
With the love of comrades,
With the life-long love of comrades.
I will plant companionship thick as trees along all the rivers of America, and along the shores of the great lakes, and all over the prairies;
I will make inseparable cities, with their arms about each other's necks;
By the love of comrades,
By the manly love of comrades.

Walt Whitman

LESSON VI.

What Children get from Play

What does baby get from play?

From its play baby learns how to use its fingers and toes and feet, how to laugh and crow and kick, which it must learn before it can learn how to walk and talk. Baby also gets health and strength from its play.

What do little tots get from play?

Little tots soon learn that there is a lot of joy in romping and shouting with a playmate, and they also learn that if they want playmates they must make those playmates happy romping and shouting. If they quarrel with their little playmates, there is no more fun, no more romping, and all are unhappy. The best thing that little tots learn from their play is consideration for others. Self-control of speech and feelings is also learned.

What do larger children get from play?

Boys and girls over ten get most from games which are largely imitations of what father and mother do, games in which work forms part of the play. They learn that self-control, truthfulness and patience will give them greater joy in their play than anything else. They also learn that respect for others must be the basis of all their activities in life. The chief lesson, the most valuable thing that children get from play is the social sense which teaches them that the happiness of each child depends upon all being happy. Children learn how to cooperate, how to act and work together, which fits them for work later in life.

All the children should have our Socialist leaflets. They are handsome, instructive, and entertaining. A new song, a new quotation, and two new lessons every month.

No Socialist Sunday School can afford to be without them. They are a great help to teachers.

Single copies one cent, 75c. per hundred. Write to the Woman's National Progressive League for a sample copy.

Methods of Revolution

By ROBIN ERNEST DUNBAR

"The proper study of Mankind is Man."
—POPE.

THE time has arrived when it is necessary to speak out plainly on the subject of Revolution. So many are claiming to be revolutionists who do not know the meaning of the word. Some of them are in high councils of the only professedly revolutionary party in the world—the Socialist Party—and others constitute the body or the "rank and file," as they most unfortunately term themselves—unfortunately because this misnaming tends to perpetuate the popular misconception, that revolution is necessarily accomplished by force and arms.

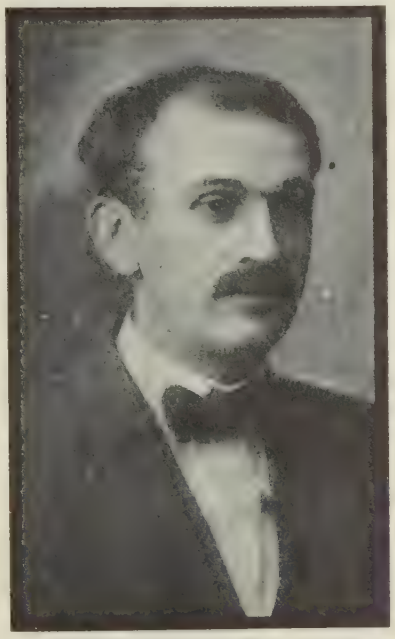
Russia and Revolution are regarded as synonymous. They are more or less correctly interlinked, but not more so than America and Revolution. Revolution in Russia is bound to be bloody, because the autocracy is bloody. Revolution in France, Germany, England or America is on an entirely different basis. In these latter countries, freedom of press, of speech, of peaceable assemblage, of religious worship, and of suffrage is more or less prevalent;—not so in Russia. Hence, several cataclysms will have to shake the land of the Czar before it awakens to the freedom of its democratic brothers.

The French Revolution in the 18th century was quite bloody; so was that in the 19th, but the English Revolution of 1688 was not in the least sanguinary. Our American Revolution was scarcely a revolution, but rather a successful rebellion; whereas the war of the Rebellion was in reality a real revolution. It was the culmination of the efforts of the North to force wage slavery upon the South. With this culmination, capitalism supplanted feudalism in the South. The landlords were forced to surrender to the manufacturers.

Another sort of revolution took place in 1876, when Tilden was counted out. He represented the middle class, but the capitalist class had begun to recognize its own power. The magnates of transportation got control of a common necessity—cheap and quick locomotion. They preferred the humble Hayes to the recalcitrant Tilden, and so they chose him who would serve them better. The era of the trusts was ushered in by Grover Cleveland. A revolution was maneuvered by the Captains of Industry in the Pullman strike. They made the government back their usurpations, by which they bound and rivetted their iron grasp on the powers of the State.

But these Revolutions are not commonly spoken of. They are rather ignored by the purblind historians of the day. And every effort to loosen the hold of the Capitalists on the State by Labor is fiercely denounced as an attempt at Revolution, Riot and Rebellion. The upper classes connect these things up with blood, because they are the first to shed blood whenever their absolutism is the least questioned. And they are the ones who rule by force and fraud, by arms and the ballot, by bribery and by bulldozing. The only thing they can't stand for is counter-organization, and that is the real cause of their half-hearted hatred of the Socialist Party. And that is also the cause of their antipathy to the unions. But of these, more anon; remember at this point, that Capitalists are not afraid of politics—that is their best weapon. They have played that game too long to fear it.

Now after proceeding so far, it becomes evident that there are several methods of revolution. Popular analogies taken from the evolutionary theories of Darwin have been drawn many times to show that the growth upward and onward is gradual, rather than by jumps. This view seems to buttress those opportunists who seek for revolution through reform. But argument by analogy is full of quicksands. No sooner did these evolutionists rest from their labors than Mendelism came to modify their Darwinian doctrine to this extent: it proved that evolution proceeds by cataclysms rather than by the slow and painful method of gradual growth. I like biology. For nothing have I a deeper respect than the study of the animal and the



Robin Ernest Dunbar

vegetable kingdoms. But I like the science outside—not inside—my sociology. If I want to study the bee, the ant and the polecat, well and good; that's my business, and none of yours. But when I try to transfer what I have learned there over into the human kingdom, then you, my dear comrade, have as much right to object as I have when you drag in your Bible and your metaphysics, to buttress your arguments on methods of Revolution.

We have a powerful weapon taken from Sociology, by which we can transcribe the inner meaning of society. It is the recognition of the class struggle. With this doctrine, one can protect himself in a crowd of cosmic dunces of microscopic asses. Study the history of mankind and interpret all acts materialistically, and you will arrive at more truth than if you read a hundred books of bromidic biologists, or a thousand screeds of sulphurous Socialists.

I have a letter from a student of the world, in which he says that he believes the old system will go out in a series of mutations or strokes, and I agree with him. He may not like the way I pull the rope, but, nevertheless, he likes the tones of the cataclysmic bell.

The first stroke tells of the subjugation of China to Capitalism. There is too much waste going on in the Orient for the Captains of Industry to stomach. The dollar abhors waste as the devil does holy water or air a vacuum. Turkey and Mexico are fast becoming Capitalistic. Individualism is everywhere departing. The entire world must become homologous. It must all become socialistic in production before it can become socialistic in distribution.

After Capitalism has run its course, some future Rockefeller will shed tears because there are no more worlds to conquer. He will load up his warehouses to the bursting point, but will find no customers, because labor will have no cash to buy with. Hard times will become chronic everywhere. Adversity is a good teacher. It will teach labor to organize industrially. The General Strike will be tried time and time again. The army will not be paid, and will become disaffected. It will join the Industrial Workers of the World, or some such organization. Wages will rise so high that rent, interest and profit will be cut into. Fifty-one per cent. of the workers will capture the industrial state, and will run it for its own benefit. That will be better than 10 per cent. controlling it, as it does now. How the 49 per cent. will afterward be cared for I can only faintly foreshadow. Maybe women will leave the industrial field and constitute the 49 per cent. Then the only way for them to get their share of the output of industry will be to capture the men for themselves. That solves the whole problem through the method of sexual selection, except 2 per cent. of the men. These will have to be disposed of by the women somehow. Maybe they will have to sit on the fence and see the rest go by.

Since writing the foregoing, my attention has been called to Gaylord Wilshire's pamphlet entitled "The Significance of the Trusts," and I was struck with the similarity of his argument to mine. The explanation is easy to make. Mr. Wilshire is one of the closest students of Capitalism in America, if not in the world. He understands it both theoretically and practically, as proven by his writings and his actions. And that is as it should be, for as I have demonstrated, an intelligent Socialist must understand present society before he starts building a future one.

Another great student of Capitalist society is Bernard Shaw, with whom Mr. Wilshire delights to cross swords over some of the minor tenets of the *credo* of Socialism. Rockefeller has shown in his business and now in his book, keen appreciation of the underlying forces of capitalistic organization, viz.: the elimination of waste, and the efficiency of absolute control. These principles of co-operative industrialism must be deeply studied by the proletariat before it can cast off its old admiration for competition, individualism and anarchy.

The place where I leave Rockefeller, Shaw and Wilshire is right here. I have just as much admiration for the trust as they have, and in fact a little more. But I should like to see labor form a trust of its own! I'm in for the wage trust!

And why not? If you can form a trust in oil and sugar; in transportation and inter-communication; in drama and in grand opera; in air and water, land and sea, why not in muscle and brain? There is only one obstacle that I perceive. That is labor itself. Let us see if this obstacle is insuperable. The nearest we have to a

labor trust in this country is the American Federation of Labor. The Supreme Court has declared this organization to come under the Sherman Anti-Trust law; —so its status has been judicially determined. But is this Trust the most efficient one? Does it eliminate waste, and exercise full control? Certainly not. Then what sort of an industrial organization would better serve the definition of a labor trust? Well, one that would absolutely control all the workers—hand and head—of industry. Industrial Unionism, such as we already see in the I. W. W. in America or in the syndicalists in France, who have merged themselves into one powerful organization called the Fédération Générale du Travail. Let Harriman control all the bonds and stocks of all the railways in the country; that control would be worthless if the laborers of those roads were amalgamated together into a close compact solidarity. Whenever he would give an order it would likely be countermanded by the Federation. Instead of dividends being declared to capitalists, there would be wages declared to workers. The solution of the wage slavery of to-day, then, lies in this: in the wage slave class raising its own wages. There is nothing so terrible in wage slavery *per se*. The veriest opportunist stops shrieking for political action the moment he is elected to a position with a fat salary attached. Give me a place where I can earn a daily wage of ten dollars, and I'll take it with the profoundest gratitude—provided it is the sinecure of a political job. No, there is nothing repulsive in high wages; but there is in low wages, and for these the working class is alone to blame.

Revolution has been most sensibly treated by a Russian author, Leonid Andreijev, in a drama entitled "To the Stars." He puts in the mouths of his characters statements that stand the acid test of truth. One of them is, "A Revolution is not in need of your whirlwinds, explosions. A Revolution is a profession, if you please, requiring lots of patience, perseverance and calmness." Bernard Shaw dwells much on the necessity of the worker becoming organized, and organization implies an appreciation of the benefits and advantages of capitalism. I have no sympathy with the howlers, the muckrakers, the disorganizers, who waste time and energy denouncing capitalists. Rough labor earns $10.00 every ten hours, and gets $1.50. Every quarter of a dollar it gains over this amount, and every quarter of an hour it shaves off its day, that much nearer it gets to the revolution. Just as the individual rises from the lowest to the highest class by acquiring money, so can the proletariat become the master class by getting more wages.

Wilshire is right about the breaking down of Capitalism. It will break down for many reasons; one because it will have to pay out its rents, interest and profits in increased wages. This disposes of Opportunism, of Impossibilism, of Political Action pure and simple, and of the Trade-Union Movement. It clears the deck for Industrial Revolution. In the meantime, let the grafters graft. They are merely juggling with the surplus profits of labor. Labor doesn't care who gets the spoils of its exploitation, so long as Labor does not get them. Labor is interested in wages, terms of toil, hours, industrial organization and other vital matters of its own most intimate concerns. It may try the general strike again, as it has heretofore. Each trial resembles one of the mutations of De Vries. And this sort of revolution takes in the soldier, the spy. Every one on the wage-scale list can conscientiously join the movement. It leaves out the professional and agricultural classes—but who cares for them? Too much of their anarchy has already permeated the revolutionary party. Their solution of the industrial problem consists in shooting down capitalists, electing leaders from the middle class to office and patting proletarians on the back and telling them to be patient while they lead them into the promised land.

In conclusion, may I be pardoned for relating a story that may throw light on the majority of American Revolutionists? Some time ago, I was asked to a lecture on Karl Marx to a small band of "reds," and, reversing the usual order of a soapbox speech, I asked them questions. Among others, I put this one: "How many of you have read Capital?" A single hand was raised.

A Revolutionist who has not steeped himself in Marx is a pretty poor specimen —no matter how many Socialist papers and magazines he may take. His radicalism is more apt to partake of class hatred than of class consciousness.

SOME NEW BOOKS

By UPTON SINCLAIR

LET me tell your readers about three interesting books which I have been reading of late.

The first of them is "A Certain Rich Man," by William Allen White. Perhaps you have already reviewed it, but it won't do any harm to comment further. I have been following White's magazine articles. He makes me think of a saying I used to hear from my grandmother when I was looking for something—"If it was a snake it would have bitten you long ago." You wonder just how long it is possible for a man to blunder around in the social labyrinth and not hit on the clue. White simply will not see Socialism; and the result is that his novel is completely spoiled—he could not find any way to end it. He had his rich man duly repentant, and aware of the wickedness of cornering the grain trade; but the best he can think of to do with his money is to give it back to the millers, so that the scrap may start all over again, and some other rich man may come out on top by precisely the same methods.

The second novel is by a Dutch writer named Querido, and is called "Toil of Men." He is said to be well known in his own country, though I never heard of him before. He is a great writer. The novel is a picture of the life of a small section of the working-class of Holland—the tenant-gardeners. It has left a vivid impression upon me. It is a terrible story told with wonderful faithfulness and sympathy.

The third novel is Wells's new story, "Ann Veronica." The critics tell us that this is the best picture of the "new woman" that we have had; that is true, and the story ought to be very useful to young girls who are afflicted with reactionary parents or guardians. Ann is a very winning young person, and what she wants is so obviously what every young girl ought to have, that it is difficult to see how the most obstinate conservative could hold his ground against her.

I have read every line that Wells has written and he never yet failed to interest me, but I have to record that with this novel, for the first time, I find myself dissatisfied with him. There is a new note in the story, a note of bitterness, almost of cynicism. Ann gets a glimpse into the gatherings of the Suffragists and of the Socialists. All she sees there are petty and rather disagreeable people, exposing their vanities and their inefficiencies. They do not satisfy Ann in the least; and so she goes off and gets herself a husband; and in the end we find that the husband has made a fortune out of writing plays, and that Ann has set up an establishment and is able to overwhelm and stun her stupid old parents with an exquisite dinner. Somehow or other, I felt that the victory over the old parents was a cheap one; and also I found myself unable to forget the suffragists and the socialists with their vanities and their inefficiencies. Ann is the heroine, and, of course, we have to rejoice over her success; but might we not have had a kind word or two for the unheroic and unattractive folk who, instead of getting married and serving exquisite dinners, remain below in the pit, and toil and go to jail for the sake of human progress? I understand that Wells had a falling out with some of the socialist groups in England recently. I do not know about the particulars of it, but if he felt about his fellow-workers as he has written about the reformers in "Ann Veronica," I can understand how the trouble arose.

ANN VERONICA. By H. G. Wells. Cloth, 377 pp. $1.50.

A CERTAIN RICH MAN. By William Allen White. Cloth. $1.50.

TOIL OF MEN. By Israel Querido. Cloth, 366 pp. $1.35 net.

Profit-Sharing Humbug

Less than twelve months ago, Mr. Andrew Carnegie made the not altogether original discovery that in profit-sharing lay the solution of the troublous problem of labor and capital, and made due announcement thereof to a listening world. And now the special industrial organization from which he derives his income—the Steel Trust—gives notice that it will rely upon this principle to ward off an attempt at organizing its employees proposed by the American Federation of Labor.

"Thousands of our employees," a vice-president of the Trust is quoted as saying, "are stockholders in the corporation, and they draw dividends and profits from the increase in the price of stock in the same manner as the men who hold the controlling interest. They believe in the corporation and will not leave it. On the other hand there are any number of spendthrifts among the employees. They may go out if a strike is called, but when they see the bulwark of the corporation, the good employees, remain at their furnaces, it is doubtful if even the unsteady workmen will strike."

The "problem" has been settled many times before in this manner, the only drawback being that it won't stay settled. There is nothing particularly new or original in any scheme by which the capitalists "holding the controlling interest," use one portion of their employees to thwart the object of the other, even when it is worked under the name of profit-sharing. However, the capitalist usually finds no difficulty in believing that permanent peace has been attained when he has succeeded in paralyzing the opposition of his wage laborers, though the latter, stupid as they may be, are fortunately never so deficient in understanding as to share the complacent view of their exploiters anent the profit-sharing humbug.

A MENDELIAN REVIEW

By EUGENE WOOD

MENDEL'S PRINCIPLES OF HEREDITY. By Prof. W. Bateson, Cambridge University Press, 12/. ($3.50.)

This book, by good rights, should have been reviewed last summer. But it is not what you might call "summer reading." It is not the sort of thing you throw into your gripsack to take with you on your vacation, to skim over as you loll in the hammock. No. It ought to be attacked in snapping cold weather. Lay the book on the table under the light with a green shade. (The volume opens beautifully and has clear print.) Put your elbows also on the table, and clutch your hair with each hand. Then dig.

Perhaps that doesn't sound alluring to those who like their literature to be in words of one syllable and one letter, and in sentences within the mental grasp of a person just a little this side of snoring. Such had better let Bateson's book alone. They won't get much out of such paragraphs as:

"The opposite members of each pair of characters being allelomorphic to each other, every zygote or individual produced in fertilization, must, in respect of any such pair, be either a homozygote, that is to say, a zygote formed by the union of two gametes, each bearing the same allelomorph, as AA or aa; or a heterozygote formed by the union of two germs bearing different allelomorphs, as Aa."

Woudn't that get your zygote?

Yet, barring the natural tendency of Englishmen to write like Germans this sentence is as clear as "See the cat on the mat." It couldn't well be simpler. The difficulty rises out of the fact that common, everyday language no more has terms for the description of what takes place in the process of constructing a plant or animal, than common, everyday language has terms for expressing any other mechanical process. So you've got to make words that will express what has to be said. Once you get the language learned you can think of the things the language tells about. Take "allelomorphic" for instance. A large and juicy word. Suppose you take pollen from the flower of a tall pea-vine and rub it into the flower from a dwarf pea-vine. Each of the two kinds of peas has characteristics that can be separated and bunched together into its offspring, and those characteristics are "allelomorphic." The peas that result from this mating of the tall pea with the dwarf pea are "zygotes." The "zyg—" in the word is the same exactly as our English "yoke." And the zygote is the yoking of these two strains of tallness and dwarfness. What results from this yoking will be peas that will either be homozygotes, that is, the cell that carries the tendency to tallness or dwarfness in one parent will hook up with a partner cell in the other parent that carries tallness or dwarfness, and you'll get either an individual pea, both of whose cells will be all for tallness, AA, or one both of whose cells will be all for dwarfness, aa, and, if left to fertilize themselves, will be tall or dwarf to the end of time; or the individual pea will be a heterozygote, one cell carrying the tendency to be tall, and the other carrying the tendency to be dwarf. But the heterozygote isn't a compromise, a medium height pea. Tallness rules. Tallness dominates of the two tendencies, one to tallness and one to dwarfness. So they call tallness the dominant. But it also has dwarfness in it, rather bashful and retiring. And dwarfness is called a recessive. When mated again, this dwarfness will appear in a definite and dependable proportion.

Whether we are men with a tendency towards being albinos, or horses with a tendency toward pacing, or fowls with a tendency toward a rose comb, or flowers with a tendency to double, every characteristic runs in pairs, one dominant, one recessive. The study of Mendel's Law of Heredity enables one to predict with mathematical certainty just how many of each kind he is going to get in the second generation out of crossing of opposite kinds of parents.

That's worth knowing. That's worth wrestling with "allelomorphic" and "gametes" and "heterozygous," and all such twisters. Because it means control by man of the hitherto mysterious and unpredictable reproductive forces. It means the triumph of the mechanic's mind. It means what you might call "a cook-book of creation," with recipes for this, that and t'other kind of men and animals and plants.

Our old friend, the Serpent in Eden, had it about right when he promised Mother Eve that the eating of the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge would make gods of us. We'll get back into Eden yet. Don't doubt it.

Decidedly Bateson's book is well worth digging at while you clutch your hair in both hands. The colored plates are beautiful, and, what is more, you learn a lot from them.

If you want a shorter book that explains what Bateson is getting at, then read "Mendelism," by R. C. Punnett, published by the Wilshire Book Co. at 50 cents.

A Part Greater than the Whole

SEVERAL months ago we noticed the publication of "The Anti-Socialist" in Great Britain, an organ whose name is self-explanatory. That it is still alive and doing good service is evident from the following argumentative item which we take from the October issue:

In the year 1880, an equal division of the wealth of Great Britain would have yielded to each family an income of £80. Since 1880 an equal division of the total which was actually appropriated as wages by wage-paid labor alone, would have yielded to each laborer's family some £25 in addition. The laboring class as a whole in Great Britain to-day, *instead of receiving less than its labor produces, receives on the lowest computation from 30 to 33 per cent. more.*

The italics in that last paragraph are ours, but the "Anti-Socialist" is responsible for the logic contained in it. However, the phrase, "at the lowest computation," may be a partial explanation. In the lowest stages of intellect which have been observed among savages, the power of computation is exceedingly low, many being unable to count beyond ten. Still this fact by no means contravenes the general truth that man is a reasoning animal, even if his capacity for reason is strictly limited.

Trusts in Germany

THE item given below is taken from the Consular Reports of November 2. The Germans have evidently little use for the idea of fining the Trust, and the courts evidently consider that a jail sentence is more fitting when the offending combine is charged with intimidating customers. The report says:

Deputy Consul-General Simon W. Hanauer writes from Frankfort that trusts and commercial combines in Germany have recently been the objects of an important legal decision, one of which he cites:

The director of one of the works of a syndicate addressed several letters to a firm purchasing goods from the syndicate works threatening the firm that it would receive no more goods from the combine if the firm continued to purchase any goods from any concern not belonging to the syndicate. As the customer firm was dependent upon the combine for certain lines of manufactures it complied with the demand. Suit was then brought in the court at Schweinfurth against the director for having by his letters committed an act of coercion. The court acquitted the defendant, but the State's attorney brought the case on appeal before the supreme court of the Empire, which set aside the judgment rendered below, and remanded the case for retrial to the criminal court at Nuremberg, by which tribunal the director was found guilty of an attempt at coercion and sentenced to undergo thirty days' imprisonment.

Taft Lectures Arizona

(ROBERT HUNTER in *Chicago Daily Socialist.*)

President Taft, on his recent tour of the West, spoke at the City Hall in Phoenix, Arizona.

His words had a curious, imperial sound, such as one would expect Edward to use to the people of Egypt or of India.

He spoke as "the little father" of Russia might speak to the peasants and workmen of his vast dominions.

The President has instructed the Filipinos in Republican government.

Speaking as a father to his children, he told them that they might have statehood on one condition. "You have GOT," he said, "to formulate a constitution AFTER Congress says you shall come in."

He then warned them against preparing a constitution similar to that of Oklahoma, which he called a "zoological garden."

Perhaps our readers have not a very clear idea of the legislative freaks in Oklahoma's "zoological garden." Well, here are a few.

The railroads are forced to give two-cent passenger fares.

The initiative and referendum is established as a part of the legislative system.

The State is expressly given the right to engage in any business or occupation for public purposes.

Trial by jury is granted in contempt cases for violation of injunctions or orders of restraint. No one can be punished for contempt of court before trial.

Records, books and files of all corporations shall be subject to full visitation and inquisition.

The railroads are declared public highways.

Campaign contributions from corporations are forbidden.

Watered stock is prohibited.

Constitutional protection is given to working men, to women, and to children.

That list includes the chief freaks in Oklahoma's "zoological garden." The trouble with Oklahoma is that human beings are given some protection. Labor is granted some rights, and Capital, the God of Mr. Taft, is hampered and hobbled a little.

Disfranchisement in the South

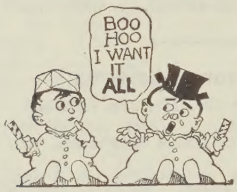
(*The Independent.*)

The way the constitution intended to disfranchise the negro in Alabama was carried is illustrated by a little analysis of the figures. There were 81,724 ballots cast against the constitution. These votes were cast in the white counties. There were 108,613 votes recorded in its favor; but the remarkable fact is that the heavy majorities for it were reported from the densely black counties. Thus, Dallas County has 2,525 white males of voting age and 9,871 blacks of voting age. But the vote returned was 8,125 for ratification and 235 against. It is perfectly plain this was a case of fraud, but the padded vote was necessary to secure the adoption. And so the people rule, and the constitution has disfranchised a hundred thousand white voters alone in Alabama, and given the State over to a political oligarchy.

How About It?

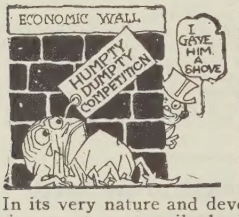
W. H. L., Philadelphia, Pa.—Why don't you Socialists state plainly that you mean to confiscate the property of those who possess wealth? Your program of "collective ownership of the means of production and distribution" means nothing less than that.

Words have different meanings to different classes. What appears to the capitalist as confiscation appears as restitution to the Socialist, who contends that wealth today is a matter of social instead of individual production. However, when the transfer takes place, the question of confiscation or restitution becomes superfluous. The descendant of the Southern planter may assert that his ancestral property in slaves was confiscated, but that changes nothing. Even before the emancipation of the slaves, his protests had no weight. It was a matter of necessity that property in slaves be abolished, and it accordingly was. The landed proprietors of England are howling about the confiscation of their property through taxation, but that avails them nothing. In France a hundred odd years ago, the landed property of the same class was completely confiscated, and has never been restored. Social evolution takes no account of so-called moral objections. Capitalistic forms of property must give place to a new form just as older forms—feudal property and slave property—gave way to it. It is a matter of social needs, not of ethics.



J. B. C., Cleveland, Ohio.—You are continually insisting that it is impossible to restore competition. What is your reason for saying so?

Broadly speaking, competition cannot be restored because there is no power to restore it in existence. The ruling class of this country, owners of the economic and political power, understand that competition must go, seeing the impossibility of keeping it intact. The Trust is the principal sign of the elimination of competition. In its very nature and development, competition must necessarily lead to combination; it is its evolution, so to speak. It is, in fact, an unthinkable conception of competition as remaining constant. It is merely the method of an economic phase of society through which the world has now almost passed, and it would be as useless to attempt its restoration as to call back yesterday. When Messrs. Rockefeller, Morgan and Co. say you can't compete, that settles it, for they have the power to prevent you, and must use it to secure their own position. To restore competition would in the first place mean the abolition of the present ruling class, by and in the interest of the small business class, a class which has practically no power and is fast passing out of existence as an economic factor.



PLAYS. (The Silver Box, Joy, Strife.) By John Galsworthy. Cloth, 263 pp., $1.50. G. P. Putnam's Sons, Publishers, 27-29 W. 23d St., New York.

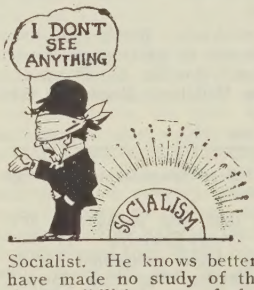
By those interested in sociological studies, this volume will be highly appreciated whether they agree or not with Mr. Galsworthy's interpretation of social problems. The last play in the book, "Strife," has been presented recently on the American stage, and has met with considerable success. The subject matter is that old theme, the strike, and it must be admitted that Mr. Galsworthy has given us a very vivid and life-like picture of the various characters on either side of the conflict, the factory operatives and the share-holders. Two men stand out prominently in this conflict on each side—John Anthony, the president of the corporation, and David Roberts, the strike leader. Both being men of most stubborn and inflexible temperament, the strike is prolonged, until the share-holders are on the verge of bankruptcy and the strikers reduced to literal starvation. In the end a compromise is effected to the disgust and chagrin of Anthony and Roberts, who are overruled by their respective adherents. It is impossible to learn from the play what the author's opinion of the labor struggle may be. In one sense it gives the impression that labor struggles are mainly attributable to the obstinacy of individuals, and upholds the "mutual concessions on both sides" theory. On the other hand, the two stubborn combatants make a most favorable contrast with their flabby, spineless following. The reader will doubtless adopt whichever interpretation he likes best. "The Silver Box" is a very clever presentation of the idea of "one law for the rich and another for the poor," it being based on the incident of a somewhat disreputable and unemployed workman, appropriating a piece of jewelry from a dissolute "gilded youth," who in his drunkenness had invited the workman to his home. The subsequent legal proceedings illustrate the result. The other play, "Joy," is of an individual rather than a social character, but all are of the most ingenious construction, and well calculated to hold the interest and attention of the reader.

THE GREAT FRENCH REVOLUTION. By Prince Peter Kropotkin. Cloth, 610 pp. $2.50. G. P. Putnam's Sons, Publishers, New York.

After a careful perusal of this work, we have no hesitation whatever in saying that it will prove invaluable to the student of this great period of history, who desires to understand the rôle played by the masses of the people—peasants and workingmen—in shaping the course of the revolution and developing it to what the Socialist considers the highest possible point attainable at the time and under the circumstances. Kropotkin, as an Anarchist thinker, of course, takes the view that it might have been pushed much further in the direction of Anarchist-Communism, and scouts the idea that nothing but a capitalist regime could have been erected on the ruins of feudalism. Be that as it may, however, he has uncovered and arranged an enormous mass of facts, tending to show the importance of the part played by the masses in pushing the revolutionary measures of the period against the opposition of the rising middle (capitalist) classes, facts, which in their working out, considerably reduce the importance of many of the so-called leaders and great men of the period, showing how the measures with which their names are connected were forced upon them by the weight of the revolutionary masses. Kropotkin also gives an immense amount of valuable matter bearing on the land question, the attitude of the peasants, the workmen, the middle class and feudal land owners, until the complete abolition of the feudal tenures. The famous struggle between the "Mountain" and the "Gironde" is also depicted in exhaustive detail up to the point where the middle classes succeeded in establishing their power and checking the further advance of the revolution on its economic side. The volume is well written and of absorbing interest, and confirms the position of the author as a historian of the very highest class. Despite the difference in the views of Kropotkin and those of the Socialist, we unreservedly recommend the work to our readers as one of the clearest and most instructive volumes on the French Revolution that we know of.

S. M. W., Denver, Colo.—While I admit the theories of Socialism to be correct, I see no personal incentive to work for it, as it will never come in my day.

The same might have been said twenty years ago of such facts as wireless telegraphy and the aeroplane, and probably was said — by those who knew nothing of what had been done in those fields of experiment. But they are facts to-day, nevertheless. Those who were making the experiments, however, knew. And so is it with the well - informed Socialist. He knows better than those who have made no study of the question, what the possibilities are of the coming of Socialism, and knows that it cannot long be delayed. Of course, no one can guarantee that it will come in your lifetime, but that is merely because there is no way of knowing how long you will live. The statement, therefore, can neither be affirmed nor denied, but judging from the progress already made there is every reason for concluding that the civilized world will be definitely committed to Socialism within the period of one generation, or say, thirty years.



Books Received

THE DIMENSIONAL IDEA AS AN AID TO RELIGION. By W. F. Tyler. Cloth, 76 pp., 50 cents. R. F. Fenno, Publishers, 18 E. 17th St., New York.

CHRISTIAN MORALS AND THE COMPETITIVE SYSTEM. By Thorstein Veblin. Paper, 17 pp. Reprinted from International Journal of Ethics, Vol. XX.

THE SPIRIT OF AMERICAN GOVERNMENT. By J. Allen Smith, LL. B., Ph.D. Cloth, 402 pp. $1.25 net. The Macmillan Co., New York.

THE INCREASING GOLD SUPPLY. By Thomas Gibson. Cloth, 134 pp. $1.00 net. Gibson Publishing Co., 15 William St., New York.

NATURAL SALVATION (SALVATION BY SCIENCE). By C. A. Stephens, M. D. Sixth edition. Cloth, 157 pp. Published at The Laboratory, Norway Lake, Maine.

SONGS OF DEMOCRACY. By Charles Edward Russell. Cloth, 124 pp., $1.25. Moffat, Yard & Co., New York.

THE WHITE ROSE. (Poems.) By John Kearnes White. Cloth, 48 pp., 75 cents. Published by the Author at Richmond, Va.

SEARCHLIGHTS. By George W. Coleman. Cloth, 182 pp. The Arakelyan Press, Boston, Mass.

CRIME AND CRIMINALS. By The Prison Reform League. Cloth, 312 pp. Prison Reform League Publishing Co., 443 South Main St., Los Angeles, Cal.

AT MOLOKAI, and Other Verse. By Robert J. Shores. 16 pp. Paper. Published by the Author, at 57 Washington St., East Orange, N. J.

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BOOKS FOR SOCIALISTS

The following list of books is not adapted for propaganda, but is exceptionally good for gifts from one Socialist to another:

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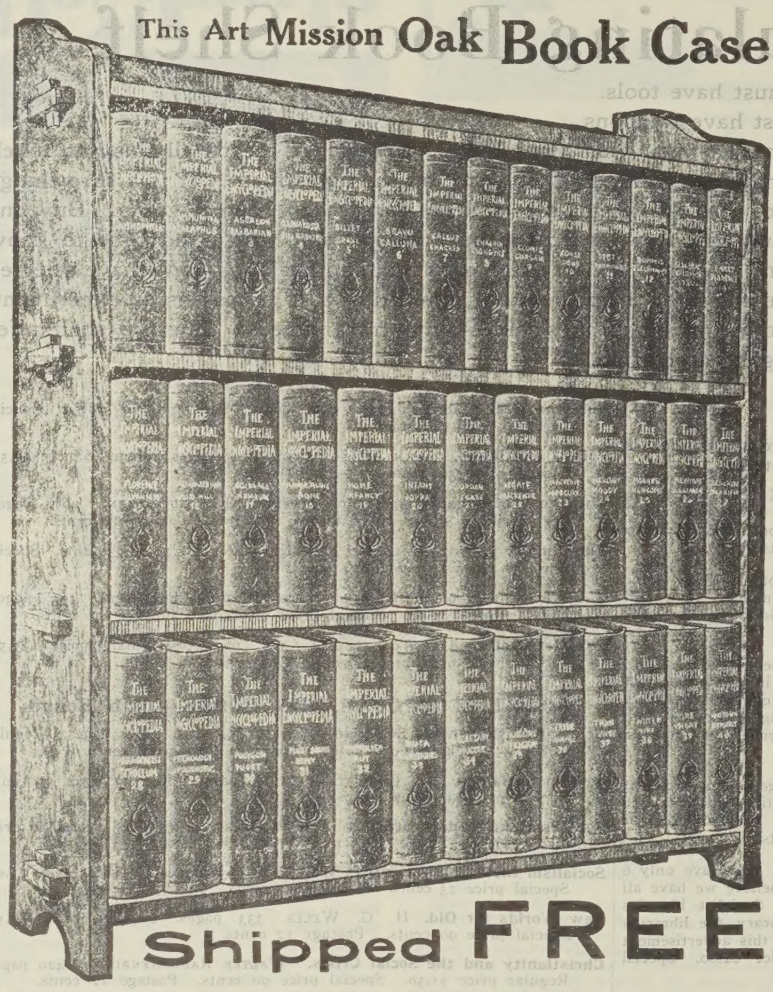

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